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ENGLAND...Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp loses his glasses as he celebrates a goal against Leicester City

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FROM THE EDITOR

The moral outrage that accompanied the sacking of Sam Allardyce – brilliantly described by Brian Glanville (page 20) – has been quite something.

Allardyce departed following allegations that were less serious than those highlighted by previous investigations – notably BBC Panorama and the Lord Stevens enquiry – which failed to secure any criminal convictions. Yet the FA felt compelled to be seen to be acting tough.

Those media expressing horror at the money flowing into football are the same people who are happy to use the Premier League to sell their products. It's a league that celebrates money in all its filthy forms. American billionaire speculators, pornographers, human-rights abusers: they're all welcome in the Premier League, no questions asked.

> Billionaire speculators, pornographers, human-rights abusers: they're all welcome in the Premier League

Of far greater concern to football than the "corruption" exposed by the latest investigations should be the role of "double agents" – those intermediaries who represent both players and managers. It's a theme that we will no doubt return to in the future.

This month, we have decided to expand our European squad lists and feature them in a single edition. I hope you find them to be a useful addition.

Gavin Hamilton, Editor

10 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS THIS MONTH

1 Ceferin elected as UEFA president ..... page 11
2 Allardyce sacked as England manager ..... page 20
3 FIFA anti-racism task force disbanded ..... page 11
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5 Third season of India's ISL kicks off ..... page 88
6 Portugal lose opening World Cup qualifier ..... page 90
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8 Pako Ayestaran sacked by Valencia ..... page 18
9 Concerns over Marseille's new owner ..... page 26
10 Chaos at the Dutch FA ..... page 27

Change...Aleksander Ceferin has promised a new era for Europe

SWITZERLAND

Ceferin elected UEFA president

Slovenia's Aleksander Ceferin promised a "wind of change" within UEFA after being elected as president of European football's governing body, replacing Michel Platini, who was allowed to address the extraordinary election congress in Athens despite being banned from football.

Ceferin, a criminal lawyer who has been the head of the Slovenian FA since 2011, scored a decisive 42-13 votes victory over Dutchman Michael Van Praag.

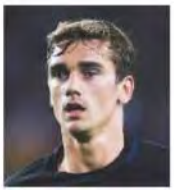
Ceferin is the seventh president in UEFA's 62 years and the first from eastern Europe. His manifesto theme had been pitched at medium-size and small nations – the vast majority of UEFA – and he responded directly to accusations that he lacked experience by saying: "Well, I'm almost 50 and have been chairing my own company and the football association of Slovenia for years now.

"You can say I am young and inexperienced, but I think that's disrespectful to all the presidents of small and medium-sized federations who, 365 days of the year, have to do more with less.

"Presidents of these federations have to be creative, strong and inspiring and, believe me, we have experience.

"Today the wind of change is blowing through European football. It's the end of one era and start of a new one – an era which marks the end of some privileges from another time."

"From now on, I'm going to rely on the advisors I've always had: my dad and my mentor, Eric Olhats"



Antoine Griezmann dispenses with the services of his agent to rely on his father and Olhats, the man who discovered him at the age of 14

FIFA

Dismay as the anti-racism task force is disbanded

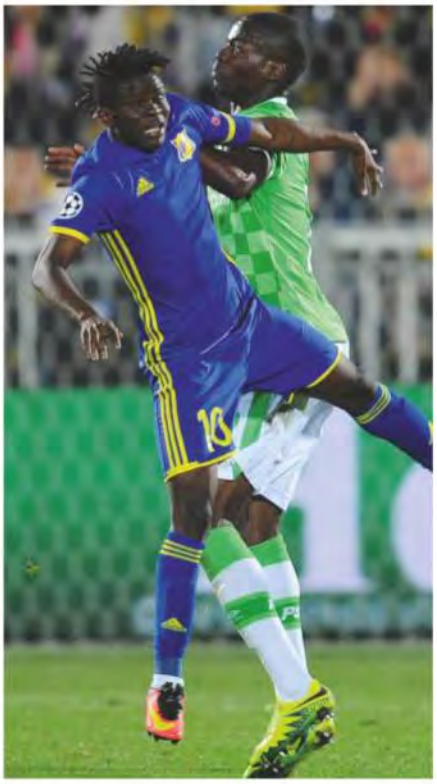
FIFA has disbanded its anti-racism task force, declaring the work complete despite ongoing concerns about discriminatory behaviour in Russia, the hosts of the 2018 World Cup.

The world governing body has written to members of the task force to say that it has "completely fulfilled its temporary mission" and "is hereby dissolved and no longer in operation."

Former FIFA presidential candidate Prince Ali of Jordan described the decision as "shameful".

A few days after the announcement by FIFA, there were calls for action to be taken against Russia club Rostov after a banana was thrown onto the pitch during their Champions League game against PSV. Rostov is set to be one of the host cities of the 2018 World Cup.

■ Nicolas Maingot has left his post as FIFA's Head of Communications. The Frenchman took up the role following the resignation of Walter De Gregorio last year.



Europa clash...PSV's Nicolas Isimat-Mirin (right) with Moussa Doumbia of Rostov

HEROES & VILLAINS

FRANCESCO TOTTI

Celebrated his 40th birthday last month and made his first appearance of a record-equalling 25th season in the Italian top flight with a goal in Roma's 3-2 win over Sampdoria.

Vet...Francseco Totti is still going strong

VINCENT THILL

The 16-year-old became the first player born in the 21st century to play in one of Europe's "big five" leagues when he made his debut for Metz against Bordeaux.

DARMSTADT

The Bundesliga club changed the official name of their stadium to remember a fan who died of cancer earlier this year. The arena will carry the name "Jonathan-Heimes-Stadion am Boellenfalltor" after technology company Merck gave up its naming rights for this season.

CARLOS RUIZ

The Guatemala forward became the highest scorer in World Cup qualifying history after scoring five goals against St Vincent & the Grenadines to take his international goal tally to 68, of which 38 have been in World Cup qualifiers, surpassing the previous record of 35 set by Iran's Ali Daei.

Record-breaker... Guatemala's Carlos Ruiz

Suspended...Jin Jingdao tested positive for clenbuterol

JIN JINGDAO

The Shandong Luneng midfielder tested positive for clenbuterol prior to his side's AFC Champions League quarter-final against Seoul and was banned by the Asian Football Confederation.

PAOLO DI CANIO

Sky Sport Italia has suspended its collaboration with the former Lazio, Juventus, Milan and West Ham United forward after he appeared on screen as a pundit dressed in a short-sleeved shirt that displayed the fascist "dux" tattoo on his right arm.

SERGE AURIER

The PSG defender said he'll appeal against a two-month prison sentence for an altercation outside a Paris nightclub in which he allegedly elbowed a policeman in the throat after being asked to take a breathalyser test.

Sentence...Serge Aurier was given two months

SIROKI BRIJEG FANS

Bosnian league referee Ognjen Valjic claimed he came under attack from Siroki Brijeg fans following a top-flight match against Sarajevo. "It wasn't a simple threat; it was attempted murder," said Valjic.

"It could easily happen. American sports play matches abroad. We're talking about visions of the future"

Adidas boss and Bayern Munich board member Herbert Hainer flags up the idea of holding European domestic league games in China

GOALS we'd like to see again

To see video footage of these goals, and many more that we have selected, scan the QR code using any free QR reader that can be downloaded to your smartphone. You can also see the videos by logging on to http://po.st/qU3145

1 MARCUS BERG
Sweden v Holland
A delightful chip over the Holland goalkeeper, Jeroen Zoet, from the edge of the penalty area.

2 JUANPI
Venezuela v Argentina
Wins the ball from Marcos Rojo, cuts inside and unleashes a shot into the top far corner.

3 DARIO BENEDETTO
Boca Juniors v Quilmes
Hits an unstoppable shot into the top corner for the second goal of his hat-trick.

4 SIMONE VERDI
Bologna v Sampdoria
Meets a deep cross from Ladislav Kejci out on the left flank with a first-time volley into the top near-post corner.

5 MIGUEL BORJA
Atletico Nacional v Bolivar
Following some intricate passing around the edge of the penalty area, a neat back-heel from Macnelly Torres sets up Borja, who then turns and places a low shot into the corner.

6 JONATHAN DOS SANTOS
Villarreal v Zurich
Some great work by Alexandre Pato sets up the Mexican to finish with a well taken volley in this Europa League tie.

WINNERS

UGANDA
Qualified for the finals of the African Nations Cup for the first time in 38 years with a victory over Comoros.

WA ALL STARS
Became the first club from the vast northern region of Ghana to win the league, having never previously finished higher than sixth since being promoted in 2007.

DUNDALK
Became the first Irish team to win a group game in European competition when they beat Maccabi Tel Aviv in the Europa League.

ICELAND
Despite success at Euro 2016, they were left out of the latest FIFA 17 game as their federation couldn't agree financial terms with the makers.

WYDAD
Beat Zamalek 5-2 in their African Champions League semi-final, but still went out 6-5 on aggregate.

SPARTAK MOSCOW, CSKA MOSCOW AND ROSTOV
All three sides crashed out of the Russian Cup in the first round.

LOSERS

Jim HOLDEN

AT THE HEART OF THE GAME

Pogba is a victim of his own pricetag

The status as the world's most expensive footballer can be an honour, certainly in the eyes of someone like Cristiano Ronaldo, who relished the prestige as another welcome layer in the flattery of his giant ego.

However, it can also be a heavy burden and prove to be a curse.

Denilson was a talented winger who cost Betis a global record £21.5million in 1998 after impressing in Brazil's run to the World Cup Final. He scored twice in his first season and was relegated in the second, his career suffering a slow descent into obscurity from the moment he shouldered the weight of expectation that came with that huge fee.

It was hard not to think of the Brazilian as Paul Pogba struggled in his opening weeks at Manchester United following his gargantuan £89.2m transfer.

The Frenchman's start at Old Trafford has been troubled, with no goals and no assists after his first six games, and providing only a fitful presence in a humbling home defeat by vibrant neighbours Manchester City. But is the record fee the problem? United manager Jose Mourinho indicated his concern, saying: "The world-record player is always a question, but I want Paul to forget that.

"There are clubs that paid £20m, £30m, £40m, which is a bigger deal than United paid for Paul because you make a relation between what you pay and the club revenue – and you realise that other clubs paying £20m, £30m, £40m is a much bigger thing than what United did.

"Paul played in the Euro 2016 Final, went on holiday, and then had no pre-season. It is normal he has a little decrease.

"I am full of trust because I know he is a good guy with a lot of ambition, so the form will come naturally."

Yes, there is a long season ahead in the Premier League and Pogba at his best is clearly an imposing and dynamic midfield player. And Mourinho, surely, will adjust the tactics of his United team to suit the 23-year-old, even if it means demotion for other star names in his squad such as Henrikh Mikhitaryan and Wayne Rooney.

> Pogba's start at Old Trafford has been troubled, with no goals and no assists after his first six games

What about the psychology of the situation, though? Mourinho, surely, will fool nobody with his spurious claim that Pogba's £89m fee is equivalent to £20m at another lesser club.

A world-record transfer always brings instant and intense scrutiny. There is no escape. I remember watching Gareth Bale's first match for Real Madrid after his record move and sensing the sheer relief all round when he scored in the game away to Villarreal.

A particular and significant problem with Pogba's transfer is that it was a heavily over-priced deal and everybody knows it, including the player himself.

He was bought as a statement of power and wealth by Manchester United in another season when they are outsiders looking in at the Champions League. He was acquired as a commercial asset, to sell shirts and the brand name, as well as a bravura footballer.

The respected German website "transfermarkt" publishes a current market value for every modern player – and on this list Pogba lies in equal ninth place, alongside James Rodriguez. Many might think this a rather generous assessment when lower down the scale are Kevin De Bruyne, Manuel Neuer and Mesut Ozil.

Watching Pogba in the United-City showdown, it looked to me as though he was trying too hard to make an impact, trying too hard to live up to his status as the world's most expensive footballer.

Trying too hard is an age-old failing in every sport. You see it in tennis and rugby and golf and motor racing, and the harder you try the worse it seems to get.

Paul Pogba needs, in the modern idiom, to stop running and to put his foot on the ball. He needs to forget about the crazy fee on his head.

It may be easier said than done. WS

Fitful...Paul Pogba (centre) struggled for Manchester United in their derby defeat at home to neighbours City

Paul GARDNER

THE WORLDWIDE VIEW

Is the tide finally turning against defenders?

Free-for-all...Burnley (in claret) and Chelsea players get to grips with one another ahead of an incoming corner

I have complained before about the pro-defence mindset that dominates football thinking; a negative mindset that obviously works against creative, attacking play.

Yet this destructive mentality is repeatedly defended with the mantra that football is "a contact sport". Not long ago the Professional Game Match Officials, representing the English Premier League's referees, felt it necessary to point out that "physical contact is an acceptable part of football".

Acceptable, yes – but only within very strict limits. Rule 12 singles out seven actions, all of which involve contact, and bans them if they are committed in a reckless – or even careless – manner. With kicking, striking and tripping, even the attempt to commit them is punishable. The rulebook also bans holding or "impeding an opponent with contact".

It could not be clearer that football's rules are intended to severely limit physical contact. That is an approach light years away from that of the "football is a contact sport" proponents. Rugby, gridiron football, boxing and wrestling are contact sports. They cannot be played without constant, heavy, often violent, contact.

Can it be seriously maintained that football belongs in that category?

The topic has come into focus again recently, with the EPL's attempt to clamp down on the free-for-alls that have for some years marred the taking of free-kicks and corners.

A welcome move, but one that is at least two years late. Television replays have exposed the rampant holding, shirt-pulling and grappling that goes on in the build-up to corner kicks. Referees frequently intervene before the kick, feebly telling players to behave themselves. Sometimes players are punished. But when that happens, the pro-defence bias kicks in.

We know, thanks to those TV replays, that everyone in the penalty area, attackers and defenders alike, are breaking the rules. If the referee calls a foul, it would surely be logical to expect half of the decisions to go against the attackers, and the other half to be penalty kicks against the defenders. But it has always been the rare exception to see a penalty given.

The EPL's clampdown threatens to correct that bias by doing nothing more radical than simply enforcing rules that have been in the book for years.

Of course, complaints about the new EPL policy have followed, with some of the complainers insisting that holding is "part of the game". If that is the truth it is only because referees have not been doing their job properly. But the change is likely to create problems, for defenders in particular, as they are the ones who have been most favoured by the referees' previous leniency.

So defenders will have to learn how to defend according to the rules of the game. Can that be such a bad thing? Well, it seems that it can. West Ham United's Angelo Ogbonna has this to say: "I'm a defender. These changes are not good for me... sometimes we must fight to win challenges but this change makes it impossible for us."

But the pro-defence bias goes so deep in the game, that forwards, too, have been heard complaining about the clampdown. Stoke City's Peter Crouch tells us that holding "was part and parcel of the game. It's one of those fouls you just sort of accept in football." And he follows that up with the usual prophecy that chaos will follow this latest attempt to apply the rules, fearing that referees are "going to be giving two or three [penalties] a game and it's going to be a farce".

> It could not be clearer that football's rules are intended to severely limit physical contact. That is an approach light years away from that of the 'football is a contact sport' proponents

We have been listening to this doomsday argument for years, but Crouch himself sees that his fears are illogical when he speculates that the new policy "will soon eradicate it – you won't have any holding because you don't want to give a penalty away".

The EPL's new policy is to be welcomed. Not only because it emphasises the integrity of the sport and its rules, but also because it marks an important retreat from the long-standing pro-defence bias of refereeing.

What is needed now is for FIFA and IFAB to clamp down globally as the Premier League is doing in England. WS

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THE INSIDER

Ceferin's challenge

UEFA's new president is already under pressure to convince and, ultimately, Aleksander Ceferin's reign will be defined not so much by how he came into the top job but the state of the European federation when he leaves it.

Structurally, administratively, commercially and financially, UEFA is one of the most solid governing bodies in world sport, never mind football. But it is not without the internal stresses and strains inherent to any major organisation.

In UEFA's case, this comes down to the contradictory powers at play. The members are the national associations of Europe, but a broad smile is maintained on the bank manager's face by the glitz and glamour of the big clubs. Balancing the interests of the one and the other is not so simple.

Bye...Michel Platini

> "We have been supporting him. It was the right decision to elect him"
>
> Russian sports minister Vitaly Mutko backed Aleksander Ceferin

Theoretically, the national associations are superior powers. But, as demonstrated in England by the uneasy co-existence between the Football Association and the Premier League, this is easier said than done.

Two weeks before Slovenia's Ceferin was elected as UEFA president at an extraordinary Congress in Athens, the European Club Association (ECA) drove through a new deal for the 2018-21 club competitions, which gained not only four guaranteed group slots for the top four nations but also a half-control of the new company running the show.

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, boss of Bayern Munich and chairman of ECA, is now a member of the UEFA ExCo, along with clubs' organisation colleague Andrea Agnelli, the latest scion of the greatest family dynasty in European club football at Juventus.

The smaller associations who make up the majority of UEFA's membership were furious. They considered the deal as a pre-emptive power strike and, without any shadow of a doubt, drove further support behind Ceferin, the criminal lawyer who had pledged to fight the power of the big clubs.

Congress... Aleksander Ceferin (far right) and Michael Van Praag

It's coming home...the European Championship trophy at London's City Hall

In the two weeks running up to the election, Ceferin's victory grew ever more certain as Angel Maria Villar, veteran president of the Spanish RFEF and UEFA's senior vice-president, withdrew from the race, having already recognised that he stood no chance.

That left only Holland's Michael Van Praag to make a contest of it.

In other times the Dutch KNVB president could have been a sensible option, representing a steady hand on

ALEKSANDER CEFERIN

Born
October 13, 1967
Profession
criminal lawyer
Posts in football
2005-11:
board member of KMN Svea Lesna Litija (futsal)
2010-11:
board member of Olimpija Ljubljana
2011-16:
president of the Slovenia football federation
2016-:
UEFA president

the tiller of a ship bouncing on the stormy waves of controversy created by Michel Platini's departure.

Platini was bizarrely permitted to say goodbye to UEFA in Athens and by then, with financial scandal swirling around Franz Beckenbauer in Germany, the former president's assertion that "football should be run by footballers not administrators" was looking ever more obtuse. Van Praag, however, made little or no political capital from it.

Football, of course, should be run by the best people for the job. But is Ceferin that person?

FIFA president Gianni Infantino and multi-tasking Russian sports supremo Vitaly Mutko certainly believe he is. With their tacit support in the corridors of power, Ceferin's enthronement was predictable. Indeed, the only surprise was that Van Praag actually managed to force a vote, which he lost by an overwhelming 42-13.

The Dutchman would have cut a finer figure had he withdrawn graciously ahead of time. After all, it's not as if Ceferin has a lifetime guarantee – his term of office is merely the two and a half years needed to complete Platini's 2015-19 mandate.

Ceferin's accession has been subject to questions about whether he fulfilled every last technicality of the rules and regulations in terms of his formal length of service within the Slovene federation. He has denounced these complaints as lies but has not been helped by the Slovene federation's refusal to answer media queries.

Failing to respond will not make the issues go away, so Ceferin's only option is to make a good fist of the job.

His first public engagement as UEFA president was to travel to London for the launch of the Euro 2020 emblem at City Hall in the company of the capital's new mayor Sadiq Khan, the FA's new chairman Greg Clarke...and England's new manager Sam Allardyce.

Ceferin may draw a lesson from Allardyce's subsequent downfall. Misjudging the limitations of the power game and speaking out of turn can prove fatal.

Thus far, Ceferin, while expansive "off camera'", has kept his public comments tightly guarded.

However, he insists he has every intention of trying to unpick the Champions League deal – and as president of the Slovenian FA, he had been one of the initial complainants that the FAs had been kept in the dark. Pressed on his determination to do just that, he suggested that "everything can change".

Including, of course, the identity of any UEFA president who fails to deliver on his promises...

Infantino must tread carefully

FIFA president Gianni Infantino escaped sanction by the ethics chamber over allegations concerning the use of private jets and exploitation of other expenses. In the end, the issues – arising while his employment contract remained unresolved – were not significant enough to bring him down.

However that close call appears to have acted as a warning shot across the bows – and one which he has heeded after his bull-in-a-china-shop early months in charge.

Staff changes have continued at FIFA, but that is commonplace when a new boss takes office. And structural re-alignments are being undertaken not only by Infantino but by new secretary-general Fatma Samoura.

Infantino needs to tread with

Tread with care...Infantino (left) with AFC president Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa

increasing diplomatic care as the latest squabble with the Asian Football Confederation proved.

AFC delegates, in a hissy fit, threw their toys out of the pram when they refused to go through with an election congress because a Qatari candidate had earlier been rejected by the FIFA ethics panels.

But Qatari FA vice-president Saoud Al Mohannadi had known he was in hot water for most of the past year and the Qataris should have found themselves another candidate.

At least UEFA, whatever the doubts raised by Ceferin's critics, did go through with his election.

"They send us messages asking us to take care of Messi. But they don't protect him. He plays all their games"

On hearing that he will have to do without the injured Lionel Messi, Argentina coach Edgardo Bauza (left) angrily points the finger of blame at Barcelona

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

Appointments, sackings and loans

IN

EUROPE

England Under-21 boss **GARETH SOUTHGATE** will take charge of the senior side for four games following the departure of Sam Allardyce.

Legia Warsaw appointed **JACEK MAGIERA** in place of Besnik Hasi, who was dismissed after two wins in the first nine league games and a 6-0 loss at home to Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League.

Palermo changed coaches after just two Serie A games, **ROBERTO DE ZERBI** stepping in following Davide Ballardini's resignation.

Ex-Italy midfielder **GENNARO GATTUSO** rejoined Serie B side Pisa as coach a month after resigning in protest over poor working conditions.

Change...Roberto De Zerbi

Back in business...former Hoffenheim coach Markus Gisdol

Gisdol in at Hamburg

Hamburg hired **MARKUS GISDOL** to replace Bruno Labbadia, who was sacked as head coach after the club's poor start to the season.

Denmark striker **NICKLAS BENDTNER** joined English second-tier side Nottingham Forest on a two-year contract after being released by Bundesliga club Wolfsburg in April.

Standard Liege appointed **ALEKSANDAR JANKOVIC** as their new coach after a poor start to the Belgian season. He replaced **YANNICK FERRERA**, who then took his old job in charge of Mechelen.

Flag bearer...Lucio Antunes

PETAR HUBCHEV was appointed Bulgaria's national coach, replacing **IVAYLO PETEV**, who joined Croatian champions Dinamo Zagreb after Zlatko Kranjcar quit in the wake of a 5-2 defeat at league leaders Rijeka.

Leicester City appointed **EDUARDO MACIA** as their new head of senior player recruitment. The Spaniard worked with City manager Claudio Ranieri at Valencia and also had an earlier spell as chief scout at Liverpool.

CONCACAF

Former USA international **LANDON DONOVAN**, who retired at the end of the 2014 season after winning his fourth MLS Cup with LA Galaxy, rejoined the club for the last few weeks of this season. The 34-year-old is the all-time leading scorer in MLS history.

Former Barcelona and Argentina boss **GERARDO MARTINO** is the inaugural coach of new MLS expansion side Atlanta United.

Former Mexico national boss **RICARDO LA VOLPE** replaced Ignacio Ambriz as coach of Club America.

AFRICA

LUCIO ANTUNES, the air-traffic controller who led Cape Verde to the African Nations Cup quarter-finals in 2013, was reappointed coach of the national team.

OUT

EUROPE

Werder Bremen sacked coach **VIKTOR SKRYPNYK** after they lost their first three Bundesliga games of the season.

Ex-Italy striker **DANI OSVALDO**, who was released by Argentina's Boca Juniors in the summer, turned down a contract with Serie A side Chievo to concentrate on a musical career with his band.

SOUTH AMERICA

Velez Sarsfield coach **CHRISTIAN BASSEDAS** handed in his resignation after a 3-0 home defeat by Racing Club that sparked a violent reaction by hardcore fans.

AFRICA

JOHN TOSHACK was sacked as coach of Wydad after the Moroccan side lost 4-0 to Zamalek of Egypt in the first leg of their CAF Champions League semi-final.

GEORGE LWANDAMINA stepped down as boss of Zambia to concentrate on coaching club side Zesco United, who had reached the semi-finals of the Champions League.

Manchester City's 33-year-old Ivorian midfielder **YAYA TOURE** announced his retirement from international football.

CONCACAF

Canada parted company with one-time Real Madrid coach **BENITO FLORO**.

Semi loss...John Toshack

Four and out...Pako Ayestaran

Pako out, Paco out

PAKO AYESTARAN parted company with Valencia after they lost their opening four games in La Liga. **PACO JEMEZ** left Granada after the team took two points from the opening six games of the season – their worst start to a season since 1944-45.

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Brian GLANVILLE

THE VOICE OF FOOTBALL

Allardyce: a greedy lout whose achievements were minimal

When the Premier League was born, I at once christened it the "Greed Is Good League" and have never seen any reason to change my mind.

So perhaps, in an abysmal and nauseating way, "Big" Sam Allardyce was an all-too appropriate figure for the job of England manager; the very embodiment of greed.

That a man already earning over £3million a year, the largest salary of any international manager in the game, should pursue another £400,000 with a fictitious entity surely shows greed far in excess of the late Don Revie. Another disgraced England manager, he was described in the High Court as greedy and dishonest by the judge, though Revie won his case, owing to the intransigent behaviour of the FA's domineering chairman, Sir Harold Thompson.

Allardyce, alas, emerged from the bleak revelations as a voracious lout. He made cheap fun of his predecessor, Roy Hodgson, who may have made a poor job of running the England team in the Euro 2016 finals but is the embodiment of decency, and in his long career he has achieved far more than Allardyce, for all his bombast, ever has.

And when push came to shove, what did Allardyce himself achieve in his one match in charge of England? A pitifully meagre win, right at the death, against a modest Slovakia team reduced to 10 men for the majority of the match.

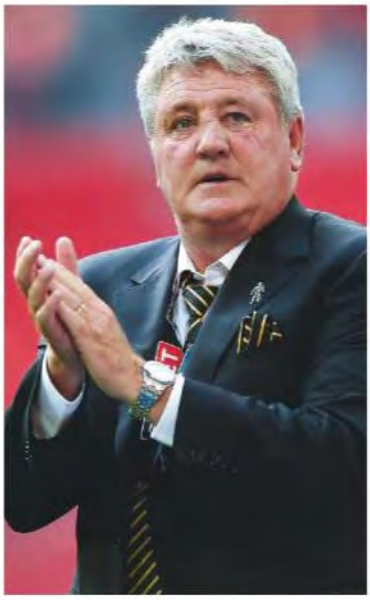
Allardyce's cynicism is as repugnant as his greed. And what, pray, as a club manager did he ever truly achieve? He was never in charge of a major club other than Newcastle United, where he failed. His achievements were limited to steering struggling clubs out of trouble. Laughably, he has boasted that he should have been in charge of Inter or Real Madrid. Delusions of grandeur?

The cupboard, so far as potential England managers are concerned, is pitifully bare. But getting rid of Allardyce will at least banish the present miasma.

> "Allardyce, alas, emerged from the bleak revelations as a voracious lout"

Over...newspaper revelations meant Sam Allardyce was forced to step down as England manager after just one game in charge

Bruce is the best of a limited lot



Resourceful...former Hull boss Steve Bruce

And the next England manager? The choice, alas, is severely limited but, as a stopgap at the least, I see no candidate better than Steve Bruce.

A more than competent club manager, an honest man, and once a resourceful centre-half who almost certainly would have won England caps had he been playing today when "stoppers" – for so long a term for a third back, though now sometimes erroneously applied to goalkeepers – are at a premium.

His was an unusual playing career. Yet another product of north-eastern football, he was ignored by the big local clubs, found his way to humble Gillingham and was then shrewdly recruited by Manchester United, via Norwich City.

I remember how resourceful he was as a manager at Birmingham City. He also did a good, solid job at Hull City, guiding them to promotion last season before resigning in frustration over the negative policies of the owners.

So, at the moment, he is a free operator – and arguably the only Englishman in sight who could and should do the job.

Mel Charles, one of the finest

Speaking of centre-halves, for one reason or another they have been much in focus these days – and I don't simply mean the outrageous Allardyce.

One of the finest, Mel Charles, the younger brother of John, died recently.

I was privileged to see what was surely his best game, in the 1958 World Cup in Gothenburg, for Wales against Brazil.

John couldn't play, having been kicked out of it by malevolent Hungarians, otherwise I still believe the gallant Welsh, who came in by the qualifying back door against Israel, might have won that game, such were the tempting crosses coming in from the wing and just right for John's famous head. As for Mel, he was a rock in defence, later acclaimed as the best centre-half in the tournament, defying Pele – the scorer of a scrappy winner – and the rest.

Off the field, Mel was a simple soul, sometimes a victim of practical jokes. Jack Kelsey, Wales' keeper that epic day, used to tell the story of Mel's cartilage operation and his recollection of it, saying: "It was wonderful. All them shining instruments.

"And it was so hot, the walls were running with consideration..."

Rock...Mel Charles

Where have all the centre-halves gone?

Still speaking of centre-halves, English ones especially, where have they all gone?

At Chelsea, with 35-year-old John Terry out injured, their central defence has been a calamity. The supreme organiser and salient skipper, Terry is palpably missed by the hapless Gary Cahill – guilty, though the mistaken pass by Branislav Ivanovic was a contributor, of the clumsy error which let Alexis Sanchez in to score Arsenal's first goal in their recent 3-0 win when the two teams met in the league.

The last person you might think to put alongside Cahill would be the ever-adventurous David Luiz, who had an even more dismal game against Arsenal.

You do wonder how much of a say Antonio Conte had in buying him back from Paris Saint-Germain. Of Luiz's talent there is no doubt; about his judgment every doubt possible – as was so alarmingly shown in the last World Cup when he was one of the chief culprits in Brazil's 7-1 thrashing by Germany.

Luiz is just the kind of player Cahill doesn't need beside him. But Terry, however presently indispensable, cannot go on forever.

Calamity...Chelsea's Gary Cahill (grounded) and David Luiz try to keep Arsenal at bay

Arsenal find solidity

Arsenal seem, at last, to have found solidity at the back. The arrival of one German international, Shkodran Mustafi, to replace another, the injured Per Mertesacker, has stiffened the defence.

Mertesacker seemed to me a dominating presence when facing the ball, but vulnerable when he had to turn.

Meanwhile, Arsene Wenger deserved congratulations on achieving his 20 years in charge of the Gunners and celebrating it in such an emphatic way, after so many years of defeat, against Chelsea.

Alexis Sanchez is confounding my fears that his presence as spearhead of the attack would deprive it of the aerial powers of Olivier Giroud, never a favourite of Wenger, though I was proved wrong by the devastation of Chelsea – even if Sanchez's goal was a gift from Cahill.

Against Southampton and Paris Saint-Germain, the Gunners had looked prosaic, but then Mesut Ozil finally came to exuberant life against Chelsea, who could do nothing with him.

Hammers problems are not just Olympic-sized

And West Ham? It is plain enough that the move to the vast Olympic stadium from tight Upton Park has done them no favours, as their skipper Mark Noble declares. The environs are no longer so intimidatingly narrow and strict for the visiting teams, while the far bigger pitch plus the distance of the crowds takes potential pressure off visiting teams.

None the less, the pathetic collapse when losing 4-2 at West Brom had nothing to do with the Olympic stadium, and you do wonder whether Slaven Bilic is the manager to turn the tide.

Rooney-less revival

At Old Trafford, the discarding of Wayne Rooney undoubtedly had a beneficial effect on Manchester United. It's embarrassing to remember the fatuity of Allardyce telling us that Rooney could play where he pleased for England.

United's own centre-back, Chris Smalling, though he has never wholly convinced me, seems in decent form and will hold his place with England.

But homegrown Englishmen Jesse Lingard and Marcus Rashford are the two who excite me, and both should play their parts with the national team.

● Read Brian Glanville's exclusive online column at worldsoccer.com

eye witness

Nick Bidwell reports

GERMANY

Public enemy no1

Newly promoted RB Leipzig have quickly become the Bundesliga's most-hated club

No matter how hard they try, and regardless of what they achieve this season and beyond, Bundesliga new boys RB Leipzig will struggle to ever be loved beyond their Saxony base.

In a recent poll carried out by the Braunschweig Technical University, the club bankrolled by the Red Bull energy drink conglomerate were deemed the most unlikable professional outfit in Germany, finishing 36th out of 36.

Already this term, their first ever in the top flight, opposition supporters have wasted little time in reminding them of their unpopularity. Hamburg fans staged a "No to RB" protest march before the teams met in September, while the game with Cologne had to kick off 15 minutes late after opposition supporters blocked the arrival of RB Leipzig's team coach. Past episodes have even included a bloodied bull's head being thrown onto the pitch by a Dynamo Dresden fan.

"The project of the promoted club from Leipzig runs counter to all that connects us to football," declared the Sudtribune Dortmund fan group in a communique. "It's a scandal that a marketing branch of an Austrian drinks manufacturer has been able to obtain a place in Germany's top league. It contradicts all sporting and emotional values."

High flier...Yussuf Poulsen (left) is still only 22

Backing...attendances in Leipzig are very healthy

For many fans of Germany's long-established clubs, RB – who were playing in the fifth tier of the domestic pyramid only six years ago – simply represent an alien football culture. They are viewed as a Johnny-come-lately, test-tube operation, built on everything that "real" football fans detest: the overt commercialism, the lack of local roots and history, and the nouveau riche spend, spend, spend transfer dealings that saw the newcomers shell out over €50million euros on talent in pre-season – a figure only bettered by Bayern Munich, Dortmund and Wolfsburg.

Large swathes of the Bundesliga's terrace-dwelling romantic traditionalists genuinely feel that RB are only in the game to sell a product and they see absolutely no merit in what Red Bull owner Dietrich Mateschitz has achieved since buying little SSV Markranstadt in 2009. There soon followed a change of name – officially they are known as RasenBallsport Leipzig (which translates as "Turf Ball Sport Leipzig") – and a massive investment of around €300m to date.

One of the most controversial aspects of the RB revolution is their attitude to German football's famous "50+1" rule, the notion of which is that fans/members hold the controlling stake in clubs. Although technically signed up to the covenant, RB Leipzig stand accused of merely paying lip service.

Meticulous...coach Ralph Hasenhuttl with RB Leipzig midfielder Stefan Ilsanker

Even a non-voting membership card in Leipzig costs €800 – over 10 times what a Bayern supporter would pay – and whereas Ruhr rivals Dortmund and Schalke each have some 140,000 members with the ability to make their voice heard, RB only has a paltry 17, and most of those are Red Bull employees.

Despite the hostility they encounter, the club have gone from strength to strength on the pitch and that success has continued into this season. Meticulously organised by coach Ralph Hasenhuttl, they are excellent in their pressing game, full of vim and desire, and could not have made a more impressive start to life in the top tier, pulling off a shock 1-0 home victory

Historic...celebrating a win over Dortmund in their first home game in the Bundesliga

over last term's runners-up Dortmund, thumping Hamburg 4-0 away and then holding Champions League participants Borussia Monchengladbach to a 1-1 draw.

Indeed, in some ways, RB are actually a positive for the Bundesliga, not least in their devotion to youth. The club have a policy of only signing players under the age of 24 and this summer they brought in central midfielder Naby Keita from RB affiliate club Salzburg, striker Timo Werner from Stuttgart and Scottish winger Oliver Burke, who less than a fortnight after arriving in a €15m deal from Nottingham Forest, came off the bench to set up the winner against Dortmund.

Widely regarded as the architect of the club's success story, director of sport Ralf Rangnick – who also served as coach in their promotion-winning campaign last season – says it makes perfect sense to have a squad with an average age of just 23. "To my mind, experience can be overrated," says Rangnick.

RB are also undeniably putting east German football back on the map. Following Energie Cottbus' relegation from the Bundesliga in 2009, the former DDR has been a top-flight wasteland for seven long years, and as for the city of Leipzig – the birthplace of Deutschland's football federation – it had not witnessed an elite fixture since the spring of 1994, when VfB Leipzig (who are once again playing under their former name of Lokomotive Leipzig) finished bottom of the pile.

> "It's a scandal that a marketing branch of an Austrian drinks manufacturer has been able to obtain a place in Germany's top league"
>
> **A Borussia Dortmund fan group**

Critics might like to label RB Leipzig as a "plastic club", but in terms of support they are anything but. While other non-member clubs such as Wolfsburg and Hoffenheim have to bend over backwards to attract people through the gate, the fan scene at the 43,000 Red Bull Arena – the old Zentralstadion which was sumptuously renovated for the 2006 World Cup – is flourishing. The team averaged gates of 28,616 in the second tier last term, and this season they are comfortably selling out on a regular basis.

Unfortunately for the purists, with their financial support, outstanding infrastructure, Rangnick's know-how and a solid plan, RB Leipzig are here to stay. WS

Peterjon Cresswell reports

HUNGARY

Vasas defy the odds

Budapest side are dreaming of past glories

Tenth in the league last season, little was expected of Vasas this term. But with a quarter of the current campaign gone, they sit five points clear of the pack and have beaten Ferencvaros, Videoton and MTK Budapest – all away from home.

In his first foreign posting, German coach Michael Oenning has defied expectations with an inexperienced squad made up of players barely out of Hungary's various academies, including his club's own.

"These young players are so willing to learn," says Oenning. "They're so keen to develop. When I arrived here halfway through last season, the aim was simply to stay in the top division.

"Having achieved that, we started this season with modest ambitions, but we've taken the game to the opposition."

Fast on the attack, Oenning's team is equally quick to fall back when needed, and they have impressed everyone by not only winning but also entertaining.

Oenning's 3-4-3 with no spearhead and constant movement down the flanks requires young players who are willing to run for 90 minutes. The midfield of Donat Szivacski, Mate Vida, Zsombor Berecz and Szilveszter Hangya have an average age of 20, while goalkeeper Gergely Nagy is 22 and leading goalscorer Martin Adam is 21.

"Hungary can be proud of its academy system – and of what was achieved at Euro 2016," says Oenning, who extols the achievements of compatriot Bernd Storck in the national set-up. And like Hungary's coach, he has a long-term vision for the task in hand.

"For me, the situation is like it was in Germany in 2000," explains Oenning, who worked with Germany's under-18s and under-20s after the country's disastrous Euro 2000 showing.

"We started from the basics. We focused on our youngsters and gave them the chance to fulfil their potential. Ten years on, the Bundesliga and national side are full of players in their early 20s – and they're still coming through."

Home...Vasas' Stadion Rudolf Illovszky

> "Hungary can be proud of its academy system – and of what was achieved at Euro 2016. For me, the situation is like it was in Germany in 2000"
>
> **Vasas coach Michael Oenning**

Since 2000, Oenning has worked at Borussia Monchengladbach, Wolfsburg, Bochum, Nuremberg and Hamburg. "I had heard of Vasas, of course," continues the 51-year-old. "As a kid I watched European matches on TV and Vasas were one of the great names from Hungary, along with Honved and Ferencvaros."

Two of Hungary's swashbuckling side from the 1966 World Cup were Vasas players – Kalman Meszoly and Janos Farkas – but the club hasn't won the league since 1977. In the following 40 years, the team from Angyalfold in north Budapest barely put in a title challenge, but it has retained its loyal fan base and sense of community.

"I grew up close to Gelsenkirchen and I feel that same working-class environment here, the close ties between a club and its supporters," adds Oenning.

There's also a sense of trust between the coach and his young charges, one built up since last season's winter break. "Most clubs here go to training camps in sunny Turkey," says Oenning. "We spent our winter break in the snowy slopes of north Hungary. We generated a real team spirit and came back stronger in the spring."

Communicating through his assistant Istvan Ferenczi, who played in Barnsley's FA Cup run of 2008, Oenning's side has been dubbed "the Hungarian Leicester" by the local press. But with tricky trips to Debrecen and local rivals Ujpest before the next winter break no one at Vasas is talking about following in the footsteps of the Foxes just yet. WS

Staying power...Vasas boast a young, well-drilled side who are extremely fit

Victory...Vasas celebrate beating Honved 2-0 in August

Photo: Daily News Hungary

eyewitness

Howard Johnson reports

FRANCE

McCourt courting controversy

There are doubts over the motives of Marseille's new owner

Deal...Frank McCourt and Margarita Louis-Dreyfus

Long-suffering fans of Olympique de Marseille will be putting all their faith in American businessman Frank McCourt as the man to restore the club to its traditional position of prominence in French football.

OM are by far the best-supported club in the country and have the proudest, most titled history. But since their last Ligue 1 championship victory back in 2010, and Qatari investment in arch-rivals Paris Saint-Germain a year later, the south-coast club has lurched from one catastrophe to another.

PSG have become one of Europe's elite outfits. Meanwhile, current Marseille owner Margarita Louis-Dreyfus has sunk tens of millions into the club with little return. Earlier this year she announced that she is no longer prepared to continue making the level of investment required to sit at football's top table. Hence the sale.

Enter McCourt, a 63-year-old New Yorker who was previously owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team, which he sold to a consortium for a whopping $2billion in 2012.

McCourt, who was quick to tell the French press that he was "very wealthy" when the €40 million deal to buy Marseille was announced on August 29, might seem like just the saviour OM need to become a big noise. "I'm very excited about making Marseille a champion outfit again," he said, sitting alongside Louis-Dreyfus and the mayor of Marseille, Jean-Claude Gaudin, at a press conference. But all may not quite be what it seems with McCourt, whose family has long been big in real estate in the Boston area.

> "I'm very excited about making Marseille a champion outfit again"
>
> New OM owner, Frank McCourt

McCourt bought the Dodgers from Rupert Murdoch's Fox Entertainment Group for $430m in 2004. But $140m of that money came in the form of a loan from Fox themselves. In April 2011, Fox lent McCourt another $30m when he was having trouble making the payroll.

But on April 20, 2011, the body that runs Major League Baseball seized control of the team, running affairs as the Dodgers filed for bankruptcy protection in June. Things got messier and court proceedings were started until agreement was finally reached in November that McCourt would sell the business.

While OM are clearly talking up the positives of the purchase – which according to McCourt himself "will take some time, somewhere between a few weeks and a few months" – there are nonetheless concerns as to what McCourt's intentions are. Many Dodgers fans believe he ran their club primarily for his own financial gain and McCourt is often cited in articles about the worst owners of baseball teams in US history.

"It's a long-term thing for me and my family," insists McCourt when talking about Marseille. "One day I'd like one of my children to take over the club.

"Football is becoming the most visible sport in the world. We see it through the Premier League, which has created a fantastic business model. I think the future for French football is excellent."

Marseille's sporting director, the former international defender Basile Boli, is happy with the choice of owner. After the two men spent two-and-a half hours together discussing McCourt's vision for the club in September, Boli pronounced the American "the man we've been waiting for. He's a real businessman and is passionate about

History...OM's last title win, in 2010

sports. That counts."

It's not unexpected that an employee speaks highly of an incoming boss, of course. But what Marseille fans want to see is major investment – and quickly – to restore pride in their club on the field.

"I want the team to be challenging for the title every season," says McCourt. "I want to build a club that's stable and competitive. I want to give Marseille's supporters the best possible experience, so that we have the best atmosphere in the league. In short, I want to create a model club."

As ever, only time will tell whether the new king in town will actually deliver. WS

Competitive...Florian Thauvin of Marseille is challenged by Dante of Nice

Klaas-Jan Droppert reports

HOLLAND

Musical chairs

The Dutch FA has been hit by a series of resignations and departures

Danny Blind must feel the loneliest man at the Dutch FA headquarters in Zeist. Almost everybody close to him has left. Three assistants, one director and three board members have abandoned the ship, while possible successors have withdrawn or had their appointments blocked.

Sometimes it's hard to keep up with changes. With Ruud Van Nistelrooy swapping the national set-up for PSV this summer, Blind found a worthy successor in Dick Advocaat. But that lasted just three months before the 69-year-old was lured to Turkey by Fenerbahce. A clause in his contract made it possible to leave, proving once again that he prefers his own career – and a much bigger salary – to loyalty.

The next to call it quits was Blind's closest assistant, Marco Van Basten, who is heading to FIFA to become head of its technical department. He should have left after the World Cup qualifiers in October, but doubts over his commitment meant that the former striker's contract was dissolved sooner.

By then another of the class of Euro 88, Ruud Gullit, was set to be appointed as Advocaat's successor. Van Basten had called Gullit to tell him of his decision to join FIFA, but recently appointed technical director Hans Van Breukelen had "forgotten" to mention Van Basten's resignation during the job interview, claiming he didn't know if the message could go public. That, and the fact that Gullit was refused a clause like Advocaat's, made him change his mind.

And the general mood of uncertainty was worsened by the resignation of FA secretary-general Bert Van Oostveen.

Timing has never been Van Oostveen's greatest gift and he quit a week before the crucial World Cup qualifier against Sweden, stating "that the storm of critics had reached its highest point and I have no energy left to fight back".

Dream team...(from left) Ruud Van Nistelrooy, Danny Blind and Marco Van Basten

In his six years in charge, Van Oostveen became a damaged man. He gave Bert Van Marwijk a generous contract until 2016, only to sack him after a horrible Euro 2012. He neglected to appoint the most suitable candidate, Ronald Koeman, as Louis Van Gaal's successor after the 2014 World Cup, opting instead for Guus Hiddink, who was later given his marching orders. And the process of appointing Blind as Hiddink's assistant and future successor was a failure, too.

> "The storm of critics had reached its highest point and I have no energy left to fight back"
>
> **Former Dutch FA secretary-general Bert Van Oostveen**

In their almighty wisdom, the Dutch FA board decided, without consulting the clubs and president Michael Van Praag, decided that Gijs De Jong, director of football, should take over the federation's most powerful seat from Oostveen. But the clubs objected to his appointment, as they weren't amused of what they call "North Korean methods". The move for De Jong prompted more casualties with three board members, including chairman Johan Lokhorst, opting to quit.

So, instead of making a new start after missing Euro 2016, it's still a mess. And now that he has lost the race for UEFA president, Van Praag has another job to do: clean up his own organisation. WS

Bryan Kay reports

ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

Out but not down

World Cup defeats offer a glimmer of hope

Hope...Oalex Anderson (above right) takes on DeAndre Yedlin of the United States

As the last Caribbean island to remain in the hunt for World Cup qualifying places, St Vincent & the Grenadines' 9-3 trouncing by Guatemala was painful if not unsurprising, given some of the recent drubbings that preceded it. Yet, somehow, this defeat was particularly bad.

Coming just days after a 6-0 thumping at the hands of the USA, the "Vincy Heat" shipped nine goals to a Guatemalan side who are no bona fide World Cup contenders in qualifying themselves.

Yet for an island about the same size as Barbados, the former British colony of just 110,000 people does have a decent record among nations of a similar size in the region.

One of the many island specs in the Caribbean, St Vincent & the Grenadines were the last of the tiny nations still standing in the campaign – much like they were in 2006, along with St Kitts & Nevis – so making it to the fourth round of the CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers is an achievement in itself, considering the lack of infrastructure and organization.

This is the fourth of the last six World Cup cycles in which the country has made CONCACAF's penultimate qualifying round, and over the years it has enjoyed periods of noted talent.

The late 1970s produced a standout team, while the mid-1990s heralded a golden generation that finished second at the 1995 Caribbean Cup and qualified for the following year's Gold Cup – their only appearance to date.

And according to Ezra Hendrickson, who is probably the country's greatest-ever footballing export, the current crop represents another zenith of talent.

> "If you notice, of all the small islands we are the ones who usually reach this far"
>
> **Ezra Hendrickson, St Vincent & the Grenadines assistant coach**

"If you notice, of all the small islands we are the ones who usually reach this far," says the former LA Galaxy defender who won 123 caps for St Vincent & the Grenadines. "Even though there is a lack of finance, a lack of overall support, somehow – because of the natural, innate talent of the players in the country – we tend to reach this far.

"It's an island I think that can go further than the semi-final round of qualifying. But everything has to be in place. We have to develop a different mentality as far as how we focus on our football.

Hope...Hendrickson

"That comes from the top down. We need the coaches to get proper training, and we need to have a belief in our players that they can reach the World Cup one day or they can reach the Gold Cup again. Right now, I'm not sure that's there."

Hints of the current side's promise can be found even amid their recent

defeats. Away to Trinidad & Tobago, St Vincent were handed another 6-0 lesson. But in the home fixture, they were holding the Caribbean big guns to a 2-2 draw before succumbing to a late 3-2 loss. And away to the USA they took a 1-0 lead before eventually losing 6-1 to the hosts.

"Let's take those two games," says Hendrickson, now in charge of Seattle Sounders' reserve side and a consultant to St Vincent coach Cornelius Huggins. "We quite easily could have won [the first] game – it was 1-0 at half-time.

"It doesn't go our way, but I think between that game, which was a Friday, to the Tuesday, not having the necessary facilities to do the recovery, which is part of the preparation for the next game, I think that was very, very evident.

Outclassed...Kevin Francis and Ajure Durham (above, left and right) struggle to stop Guatemala's Carlos Ruiz

Debut...St Vincent play Mexico in the 1996 Gold Cup

"The guys looked sluggish, they looked like a team that wasn't physically, physiologically prepared."

Hendrickson is working to get more national-team players fixed up with clubs in overseas leagues in order to help further their tactical understanding, and Seattle Sounders have two Vincentian internationals among their ranks.

Myron Samuel is a 23-year-old who plays for Hendrickson's Sounders B team side in the US third tier, while 20-year-old forward Oalex Anderson graduated to Seattle's first team this year and has regularly appeared from the bench for the MLS side.

Anderson, who scored twice in the 9-3 rout by Guatemala, believes there are others in the national squad who are good enough to follow him overseas into a full-time career

"We all play the same: the pace, the skills, the dribbling," he says of his international team-mates. A lot of them can play outside." WS

PSG's post-Zlatan problems

Life after Ibrahimovic is proving tricky for Paris Saint-Germain's new boss, explains Jonathan Wilson

Fall guy...much will be expected of Edinson Cavani this season

This season was never going to be straightforward for Paris Saint-Germain. Losing Laurent Blanc, a coach who never entirely convinced in European competition, was one thing; losing Zlatan Ibrahimovic was something else.

And replacing Blanc with a very different style of tactician in Unai Emery was something else again.

It was, therefore, perhaps no great surprise that PSG, by their own extremely lofty standards, had an uneasy start to the new season.

Ibrahimovic is a get-out-of-jail-free card for a coach. Although he may never have had lightning pace, at the age of 35 he possesses everything else a centre-forward needs. He is big, strong and fit, is technically gifted, imaginative and a fine finisher. He can score booming headers, hit long-range drives and take people on in one-on-ones, as well as having the capacity to volley balls that are at shoulder height. Pick Ibra, get the ball up near the box and he will do things.

He doesn't require – indeed, he rebels against – complex systems. As a coach, have him in your side and at all levels – except perhaps the very highest – you'll get good results by keeping it tight and letting him play. That's why he has won 13 league titles in his lifetime – the two he won at Juventus subsequently revoked – and perhaps also why he has never won the Champions League.

For PSG, adapting to life without Ibrahimovic always looked like it would required some major readjustment. It was never going to be just a case of switching Edinson Cavani into the middle – and it is something that has been complicated by the Uruguayan's loss of form and confidence.

Cavani, as he was in his final campaign at Napoli four seasons ago, would probably have scored a hat-trick against Arsenal in September's Champions League opener. So, is he simply coming to terms with being the main striker in the post-Zlatan era or, at 29, is he already showing signs of irreparable decline?

Then there is PSG's ability to adapt to a new coach in Emery, who is so well-adapted to European competition that he led Sevilla to three successive Europa League successes.

Emery's brief this season, quite clearly, is to go beyond winning Ligue 1, which after four successive titles and given the club's vastly superior resources to anybody else in France, has come to seem like a formality. But after defeats at Monaco (3-1) and Toulouse (2-0), and a draw at home to Saint-Etienne (1-1), the awkwardness of changing style is becoming apparent.

"It's difficult to change everything with

Crucial...Angel Di Maria (right) in Champions League action against Arsenal

New look...new PSG coach Unai Emery

different players from those he had at Sevilla," said captain Thiago Silva after dropping points against Saint-Etienne.

"Changing quickly, it is not simple. Gradually, the changes will appear. I think we already have the aggressive face Emery wanted."

Aggression in Emery's case means much harder pressing and far greater verticality than PSG displayed under Blanc. This season they have been trying to get the ball forward quickly, seeking to avoid the ponderousness and indulgence that occasionally crept into their play under their previous coach.

Capitalising on transitions is the key, and their ideal midfield set-up would appear to be a lopsided triangle with Thiago Motta deepest, occasionally dropping between the two central defenders, Marco Verratti high up the pitch to link with the line of three forwards, and Adrien Rabiot filling the gap between them.

However, in domestic games against massed defences, most opponents will sit off, let Emery's side have possession and deny space in behind their defence for PSG to hit. Monaco achieved this very successfully, and PSG's midfield three frequently ended up playing in a horizontal line across the pitch, engaging in endless square passes.

But this season is all about progress in the Champions League, and it's here that Angel Di Maria ought to come into his own. It seems to have been forgotten by many, but when Real Madrid won the Champions League in 2014 the Argentinian was critical to their successes in both the semi-final and the Final.

He was devastating in the away leg against Bayern Munich when Madrid won 4-0 and was then named man of the match in the Final. Emery's general approach should be ideal for him – and, just as significantly, the shape of the midfield and the variety of options open to the coach will allow Di Maria to drop back if need be, whether to help win possession or just to find space away from his full-back.

Having played on the opposite flank for much of the past three years, Cavani is also happy to drop or drift wide in a way that Ibrahimovic only ever did fitfully, and his movement should be better suited to Emery's pressing game. Against Arsenal, it was just his finishing and composure that was missing.

Cavani did score five goals in his next two games as PSG beat Caen 6-0 and Dijon 3-0, but it's after Christmas in the Champions League that he will be judged.

Hopefully for him and PSG, by then Emery's approach should be fully understood and at its most effective. WS

> "Changing quickly, it is not simple. Gradually, the changes will appear. I think we already have the aggressive face Emery wanted"
>
> **Thiago Silva, PSG skipper**

Rebel...Zlatan Ibrahimovic is very much his own man

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN: WITH AND WITHOUT IBRA

"There's not going to be a revolution here. The characteristics of the players lend themselves to attacking football"

Facetoface

CARLO ANCELOTTI

"People come to the stadium to see the players, not me"

Bayern Munich's coach on the new challenges facing him in the Bundesliga

Jupp Heynckes led Bayern to the triple. Pep Guardiola twice completed the double and won three Bundesliga titles. What can you win?
I'll be able to say at the end of the season. For now, I'm concentrating on building on the fantastic work of Guardiola. I'm aiming to keep the team at the top level and convey my ideas about the game to the players. Then we'll see what happens.

When you arrived at Bayern you praised the quality of the squad. Is it the best you've ever worked with?
It's difficult to compare. I've also had outstanding players elsewhere. I'm relishing the chance to coach this Bayern team, one which in every position is very strong.

At Bayern you have technical individuals in abundance...
That's why I'm not going to change much of the groundwork of recent years. The players here have the quality and the experience of possession football and game control. What they've learned from Guardiola is very significant. However, we will try to play a little more vertically when we have the chance. There's not going to be a revolution here. The characteristics of the players lend themselves to attacking football. We can play with intensity and have lots of quick players.

Will you rotate your starting line-up or do what you did at Real Madrid and rely on a hardcore of 14-15 players?
My plan is to rotate, especially in the middle of the season when there are a lot of fixtures and I don't want to overly burden the guys. Without rotation, a fixed starting XI would be done for towards the end of the campaign, while the others would be desperately unhappy. Rotation keeps everybody highly motivated.

Do you know your strongest line-up?
Unfortunately I don't have a best XI. If that was the case, I wouldn't have any selection difficulties. I've 20 players who could turn out for any club in Europe. Sadly, I can only pick 11. I know that Philipp Lahm can play in midfield or full-back without any problem at all. I'll pick him where I need him.

Guardiola used to like working with Spanish compatriots such as Alonso, Thiago and Bernat. Would you like to bring in Italian recruits?
If the opportunity arose to buy a good Italian player, why not? That wouldn't mean that I wanted Bayern to adopt an Italian style. In fact, I honestly can't say what an Italian way of playing is.

Is a three-man back-line an option?
I'm not one to focus on one system, but it's much more complicated to cover the entire field with three defenders. With four at the back it's better.

Two years ago, your Real Madrid beat Bayern 5-0 on aggregate in a Champions League semi-final. Before the game, did you say to your players let Bayern have the ball, let them play, play, play and then counter-attack? Was it that simple?
It wasn't that simple. I knew it would be impossible to stop Bayern having possession. And when something is not possible, you have to find other solutions. They could have the ball, but we had to defend really well and we had the sort of fantastic players who could make a difference on the counter.

You are bound to be compared with Guardiola. Could it get to the point when you no longer want to hear his name?
Pep is a good friend of mine. It's not a problem. Pep is mentioned a lot because he's one of the best coaches in the world. I've great respect for him.

You are very composed in your technical area. Is it because a coach can't really influence proceedings from the sidelines?
During a game you can't do anything. It's up to the players to adjust and win. You can't change much from the touchline. At half-time it's a different story. Most of my work is done before a game, when you have the opportunity to prepare the team and set out the strategy.

When do you get angry during a match?
I'll shout when someone is not focusing, when concentration is lacking. As a rule, I tend to criticise mental rather than technical aspects. I was a player myself and know that errors can happen. But you can control your mentality and professionalism.

What, for you, is the most important part of such professionalism?
I want my players to be responsible. That's absolutely vital. From nine until four, I can supervise them on the training ground. However, the other side of the coin is a player's private life. I cannot control that. Nor do I want to. I'm not a policeman. I want to create a good relationship with my players, but never to control them.

Cristiano Ronaldo is the star of Real, Messi likewise at Barcelona. Who is the Bayern number one?
The star here is the club. Bayern are an established and successful club. All the players here feel something special when they pull on the shirt. The club stands above everything else and there are fantastic players who were practically born here.

Is that an advantage?
Look at the great Milan side, where Maldini, Costacurta, Evani and Baresi all came through the youth ranks. Then the Xavi generation at Barcelona. The same process is happening at Bayern now. It's very important to have players making their way from the academy to the pro set-up.

Interview by Jean-Julien Beer & Karlheinz Wild/ESM

Glenn Moore

Rapinoe stirs things up

US star 'takes the knee' in solidarity

With the United States crashing out of the Rio Olympics at the quarter-final stage, there was no post-tournament feel-good boost to the domestic game.

The sport did, however, remain in the spotlight, and not always happily so, with headlines about high-profile present and past players Megan Rapinoe, Hope Solo, Abby Wambach and Carli Lloyd.

Rapinoe, a World Cup and Olympic champion, has long been a prominent figure, and not just because her dynamic wing-play and platinum blonde crop make her instantly recognisable on the pitch. The 31-year-old came out four years ago and has been involved in philanthropy and activism for gay causes.

It was, therefore, very much in character when she "took the knee" in a gesture of solidarity with Colin Kaepernick. The San Francisco 49ers quarterback shot to international prominence when, to draw attention to the Black Lives Matter movement, he refused to stand for the national anthem (in the US, the anthem is routinely played before sports events, domestic as well as international).

Rapinoe went down on one knee during the anthem prior to a National Women's Soccer League match. Her club, Seattle Reign, issued a supportive statement but ahead of their next game, at Washington Spirit, the hosts' owner, Bill Lynch, had the anthem played before the teams came out. A club statement said this was to avoid "subject[ing] our fans and friends to the disrespect we feel such an act [Rapinoe taking the knee] would represent."

The Spirit players later criticised this decision, while Rapinoe accused Lynch of being homophobic and suggested her being gay may have been a motivation. Lynch, an airforce veteran, denied both charges, adding: "While I disagree with Megan's methodology, I support her efforts to elevate this meaningful conversation."

Rapinoe said she felt America did not always protect all its citizens the way it should and she wanted to stimulate debate. She told American Soccer Now: "We need to have a more thoughtful, two-sided conversation about racial issues in this country. Being a gay American, I know what it means to look at the flag and not have it protect all of your liberties."

Failing to stand for the *Star-Spangled Banner* before a league match was one thing, failing to do so while representing the nation took Rapinoe's protest to another level. After she took the knee in Colombus, Ohio, before the USA played Thailand, US Soccer quickly issued a statement that said: "We have an expectation that our players and coaches will stand and honour our flag while the national anthem is played." However, the governing body did not discipline her.

> "Being a gay American, I know what it means to look at the flag and not have it protect all of your liberties"
>
> Megan Rapinoe

A few days later she repeated the gesture before the US met Holland in Atlanta. When she appeared as a sub, she drew both boos and cheers. Most team-mates have appeared quietly supportive, but US captain Carli Lloyd said it was "a distraction" without venturing an opinion on whether she supported the protest.

Within days there was another distraction, created by Lloyd releasing extracts from her autobiography, in which she detailed the rift that followed Solo's fury at being dropped for the 2007 World Cup semi-final – partly, said Lloyd, at Wambach's urging.

Not that Lloyd was the only one causing waves with words. Wambach, who retired in December after a stellar career in which she scored 184 international goals and won every major honour going, has also released an autobiography. She reveals she had for years been addicted to alcohol and prescription drugs, only stopping when being caught drink-driving in April. "That night getting arrested was one of the best things that has ever happened to me," she revealed. "Because if I don't get so publicly shamed and publicly humiliated, I don't think I wake up."

All this took place after the furore that followed Solo's description of Sweden, their Olympic conquerors, as "cowards" for adopting a defensive approach. US Soccer subsequently suspended Solo from the national team for six months. The governing body insisted this punishment was a result of cumulative offences, but Solo claimed she was targeted because of her advocacy for players' rights, notably as part of the suit filed against US Soccer by several female players seeking pay parity with the men's team.

Controversial...Megan Rapinoe on one knee

Protest...49ers' Colin Kaepernick (right) and team-mate Eric Reid

She said: "They're going to use my comments as an excuse to get rid of me forever so that they don't have to deal with such a strong voice."

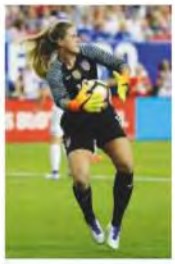
US coach Jill Ellis already appears to be looking beyond Solo, giving long-time understudies Ashlyn Harris of Orlando Pride and Chicago Red Stars' Alyssa Naeher a cap each against Thailand and Holland. Ellis, who supported US Soccer's stance on Solo, spoke about "identifying a starter" by the end of January.

There was one other bombshell for US fans when Lauren Holiday, who also retired last year after a glittering career, was diagnosed during pregnancy with a brain tumour. This was fortunately benign and operable, and with a baby girl safely induced in late September surgery is likely in early November.

In the circumstances, US football was pleased to receive some good news.

This came in confirmation that, despite some issues with finances and facilities, NWSL remained the world's premier female league. First Portland Thorns drew a crowd of 21,144 as they beat Western New York Flash to claim a play-off place alongside Flash, Washington Spirit and Chicago Red Stars.

Then Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu announced at the opening of a New York office that the club wanted to "create" a team to play in the NWSL.



Solo follower...keeper Alyssa Naeher

Opener...Jill Scott (obscured) puts City ahead against Chelsea

Ambitious City claim their first title

The victory was won with a deflected header and a penalty, but there was no doubting the comprehensive nature of Manchester City's first title success as they wrapped up the FA Women's Super League with six weeks to spare. Having won 13 and drawn the other two of their 15 matches, scoring 35 goals and conceding three, theirs was a triumph even Pep Guardiola's male team will struggle to match

The celebrations were joyous and prolonged, as well they might be for a team which has gone from being an amateur club to England's most professional in less than five years.

A female City team has been playing since 1988, initially as part of the club's community scheme, then as an amateur operation, albeit one which was slowly rising through the divisions. Then, in 2012, City decided to get serious. They announced they would formally incorporate the female section into the club, and subsequently successfully bid for a place in the first division of the newly expanded WSL.

Next City signed international players, starting with England's captain Steph Houghton, goalkeeper Karen Bardsley and midfielder Jill Scott. From outside the assumption was that money was talking, again. Four years earlier Abu Dhabi royal Sheikh Mansour had bought City and spent heavily to catapult the men's team from Premier League also-rans to Champions League regulars.

Cash has been a factor. City's players are better paid than most in the women's game, but salary differences are relatively slight. To a woman, the players explain that a greater attraction is the opportunity to train full-time and a level of integration with the men's club that means they even share medical staff and facilities. In a league in which one rival club's manager had to take the kit home himself to be washed last season this degree of support is significant.

> Manchester City's success puts into sharp relief the absence of a women's team across town at Old Trafford

Success...City's Toni Duggan (left) and Jane Ross

The results were there to see as a club-record 4,000-plus, including men's captain Vincent Kompany, attended the decisive match with Chelsea at the mini-Etihad the women share with City's academy teams. Chelsea, the reigning champions, had to win to keep the title race alive but rarely threatened in a game won through a Jill Scott header and Toni Duggan penalty.

City's success puts into sharp relief the absence of a women's team across town at Old Trafford.

Manchester United have an impressive girls football programme, but that is run by the club's community scheme whose ring-fenced income comes from central Premier League funds. When the girls reach their late teens they have to join other clubs to play senior football, including Manchester City.

JUVENTUS
adidas
Jeep

Hero or *villain?*

His record transfer to Juventus may have angered Napoli fans but there's no doubting that Gonzalo Higuain is the most influential Argentinian to play in Italy since Maradona

WORDS: Paddy Agnew

On the night of January 16 this year, seconds after the final whistle in Napoli's 3-1 home win against Sassuolo, Argentinian ace Gonzalo Higuain ran over to the fans' curva. As he stood there, basking in the heat of Neapolitan enthusiasm, he joined in the singing of one of the fans' favourite songs, *Un Giorno All Improvviso, Difendo La Citta*, which is about defending the city of Naples.

This was a time when, for six consecutive January and February days, Napoli led Serie A. For many, Higuain's singing of that song merely seemed to endorse what was becoming the most intense relationship that Napoli fans had had with any player since the days of Higuain's compatriot, Diego Maradona.

Within a month, of course, Napoli had been knocked off the top of the table by Juventus, who went on to win their fifth consecutive title. All was not lost for Napoli, however, as they ended the season second in the table and qualified for the Champions League. The 28-year-old Higuain also wrote himself into the history books with 36 Serie A goals to equal the record set by Gino Rossetti in 1928–29.

Arguably the player of the year in Italy, he looked and sounded like a very happy camper. Speaking to Argentinian daily *Ole* after he had scored a final-day hat-trick against Frosinone that equalled the record, he said: "At Napoli, I really feel loved, more than in any other club I have played for.

"After scoring that third goal against Frosinone and being embraced by all my team-mates, I felt immensely happy."

And yet, two months later, Higuain would join arch-rivals Juventus.

Throughout last season, he and his entourage had repeatedly said that he would not be leaving Napoli. Last November, his brother-agent, Nicolas, told tuttonapoli.net: "Gonzalo Higuain is not planning a future away from Napoli. The idea is to win something important [here]". It was just one of many such denials.

In the end, the move to Juve went ahead via the mechanism of a €94million "rescission" clause in Higuain's Napoli

Timeline

MAY 29, 2005
Makes River Plate debut in a 2-1 home defeat to Gimnasia La Plata.

FEB 12, 2006
Scores his first goal for River, in a 3-1 win at home to Banfield.

FEB 24, 2007
Scores his first goal for Real Madrid, in a 1-1 draw away to city rivals Atletico.

MAY 4, 2008
Scores an 89th-minute winner as Real beat Osasuna 2-1 to secure their 31st title.

NOV 8, 2008
Scores all four goals in a 4-3 win at home to Malaga to claim his first hat-trick in professional football.

contract. Even if, to some extent, the player's hand was clearly forced, Napoli fans saw the move as a betrayal. Sales of toilet paper bearing Higuain's face did good business for some days in the street markets of Naples.

The Argentinian had touched so many deep-seated nerves. Above all, he had rekindled a feeling not seen since the Maradona days. It was not just that he had scored a record number of goals. Nor was it that he had scored in six consecutive games, a feat last achieved by Maradona himself. Nor was it the fact that, under his inspiration, Napoli had found themselves back on top of the table for the first time in 25 years.

No, it was perhaps the sensation that, in the way Maradona was able to almost single-handedly guide Napoli's fortunes all those years ago, Higuain was about to do the same thing. After all, this was the player who, in March 2014, had said that Napoli was the "perfect city" in which to play your football.

Over...in Champions League action for Napoli against Arsenal

He appreciated the warmth of the fans and got on well with both of his Napoli coaches: Rafa Benitez in his first two years and then Maurizio Sarri last year. More than once, he pointed out how being able to play with continuity – unlike at Real Madrid, where he was in and out of the team – was ideal. This was a marriage made, if not in heaven, certainly on the drawing board of some smart agent. When the union broke up, however, Napoli fans felt bitterly betrayed.

"From a human point of view, the Argentinian has disappointed us," argued the areanapoli.it fan site, adding: "It is fair enough to be ambitious and want to win something after you have just finished second in the league and after you have lost two Copa America finals on penalties and above all lost the last World Cup Final.

"But why did he reassure Neapolitans this summer, telling them not to worry?

"When you sang that *difendo la citta* in front of the fans, it seemed sincere. You will never be able to understand us

OCT 10, 2009

Scores on his international debut as Argentina beat Peru 2-1 at home in a World Cup qualifier.

JUN 17, 2010

Scores a hat-trick at the World Cup as Argentina beat South Korea 4-1.

JUL 3, 2010

His World Cup adventure comes to an end as Argentina lose 4-0 to Germany in the quarter-finals.

NOV 20, 2010

Gets injured in a 5-1 win at home to Athletic Bilbao and will miss the next four months of the season.

APR 23, 2011

Three weeks after returning from a lengthy injury lay-off he scores a hat-trick in a 6-3 win away to Valencia.

completely, but when you sang that song in front of the fans, there were people, like myself, who cried for joy. Dear Higuain, we Neapolitans forgive you. After all, you are only a footballer. It's a pity we were a bit slow to understand that."

Even if the Neapolitan fans were clearly not happy, there were other parties who did well out of this deal. Take the opinion of super-agent Mino Raiola, who looks after Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Mario Balotelli, among others. He told *La Gazzetta dello Sport*: "The sale of Higuain was brilliant. I would have sold him for a lot less. It is always a lot better to sell a player and have your regrets than to not sell a player and have your regrets."

Former Italy midfielder Giancarlo Marocchi, who is now a pundit with Sky Italia, says there was nothing hypocritical about Higuain's profession of attachment to Napoli, explaining: "Higuain did absolutely nothing wrong. At Napoli, he had done as much as you could have asked him to do. To do better than 36 goals in a season would be impossible. It is normal that a player like him heads off, looking for other stimulation.

"Nowadays, so many players are managed by fathers, brothers, friends... these people have a different view of things, they're not in the dressing room, they are not out there on the pitch. For them the relationship with the fans has little value. However, for the player, it has a great value. So when a player says he does not want to leave, it is often because he genuinely feels good at a particular club and would be happy to stay."

For the time being, Higuain does not appear to be doing much wrong in Turin either, scoring four goals in his first five Serie A games. And it did not go unnoticed that he asked Argentina's new national coach, Edgar Bauza, not to call him up for the World Cup qualifier against Uruguay at the beginning of September.

Preferring to stay in Turin to work on his fitness, the impression he has made on his new team environment so far fits in with previous impressions made at Real Madrid and Napoli. He comes across as an utterly serious professional who, if he has a fault, it is that he often seems too modest and quiet in the dressing room, rarely making team-mates feel the weight of his huge contribution – at least in the case of Napoli – to the team cause.

During training with Juve he has amused the staff by emulating his Italy-based compatriot Pope Francis in looking for a drink of mate or yerba mate, the traditional South American caffeine-rich infused drink. Yerba mate is particularly popular in Argentina where it is called the "national infusion", so Argentinian pilgrims to the Vatican often bring along the drink to offer to the Pope as he does his rounds during his Wednesday public audience.

Higuain's integration at Juventus has gone smoothly, not only because of his own uncomplicated attitude but also, of course, because he has gone to a team where one of the undoubted stars is his compatriot and strike partner Paulo Dybala.

The pair, who seem set for an important partnership up front, live close to one another in central Turin and even share a private box for family and friends at the Juventus Stadium.

In an interview with *La Gazzetta dello Sport*'s *Sport Week* magazine in January 2014, Higuain gave a rare insight into his vision of the world, admitting to his highly privileged status but adding that he often yearned for normality, revealing: "The fact that I am a footballer does not make me any different from the office employee, the

> "Lots of fans think that I am only interested in scoring goals, but that's not true. I really like to lay on a good pass and create space for team-mates"
>
> **Gonzalo Higuain, on his forward play**

CHOSEN BY CAPELLO

Fan...Capello

Fabio Capello has often claimed credit for having approved the purchase of the 19-year-old Higuain by Real Madrid from River Plate.

He has always had a high opinion of the Argentinian and when Juventus signed the striker this summer the 70-year-old coach told *La Stampa*: "Even before Juventus bought Higuain, they were in a class of their own. The truth is that Juventus were first out of the stalls and they continue to steal a march on their rivals."

As boss of title-winning Roma in the 2000-01 season, Capello relied greatly on the goals of another Argentinian, Gabriel Batistuta, who was bought in the summer of 2000.

Asked to compare Higuain to Batistuta, Capello commented: "You cannot compare them: different times and different competitions. At Roma, we badly needed a central striker to win us the *scudetto*. At Juventus, you are talking about someone to win the Champions League."

Record...celebrating his hat-trick against Frosinone in the final game of last season

Close...Higuain and Juve team-mate Paulo Dybala (right)

JUL 16, 2011
Scores in the Copa America semi-finals against Uruguay, but Argentina eventually lose on penalties.

FEB 9, 2013
Sent off for the first time in his career, seeing red in a 4-1 win against Sevilla.

JUN 7, 2013
A second red card, and first at international level, as he is sent off after 27 minutes of a World Cup qualifier at home to Colombia.

AUG 25, 2013
After joining Napoli, he makes his debut in a 3-0 win at home to Bologna.

MAY 3, 2014
Sets up the second goal, for Lorenzo Insigne, as Napoli beat Fiorentina 3-1 to win the Italian Cup Final.

artisan worker or the businessman. Yes, I can permit myself luxuries denied to others but that's the law of life. On the other hand, the majority of people can walk around the streets without everyone looking at them, and they do not have to justify themselves if they don't want to stop to pose for a selfie.

"Before getting to this point, I had it hard enough. I was only a young boy when I had to leave home, family and friends. I am a normal person who likes doing normal things, something which is not always possible."

In that same interview, he spoke of his football origins and vision, saying: "As a child, I played a lot in the street, to the approval of my [ex-footballer] father. He would tell me: 'Move this way, move that way, that's the thing that really gives a defender bother'. I started off playing in attack and given the results, I stayed there.

> "I started off playing in attack and, given the results, I stayed there"
> Gonzalo Higuain, on his formative years

"Lots of fans think that I am only interested in scoring goals but that's not true, I really like to lay on a good pass and create space for team-mates."

Born in France, to professional footballer Jorge Higuain and painter Nancy Zacarias in December 1987, his arrival came during the one year that his father played football outside of Argentina, namely for Brest. At the end of that season, the family returned to Argentina, where Gonzalo was reared.

When he was coach of France, Raymond Domenech twice – in 2006 and 2008 – tried to persuade Higuain to play for *Les Bleus*. However, playing for River Plate at the time, he declined the offer and subsequently obtained an Argentinian passport. To this day, he retains French and Argentinian dual citizenship.

A key figure in the early years of Higuain's career was the River Plate and Argentina coach Daniel Passarella, an old colleague of his father. As an 11-year-old, the youngster had accompanied Higuain senior on a scouting trip to France on behalf of Passarella, who at the time was Argentina's national coach.

Later it was Passarella, during his second stint in charge of River Plate, who gave Higuain an important break, establishing him as first-team regular. He had joined River at the age of 10 from Buenos Aires local team, Atletico Palermo, making his River debut in May 2005.

Good performances in 2006, including a Libertadores Cup double against Brazilian side Corinthians, inevitably attracted attention on the other side of the Atlantic. In December 2006, on the advice of then-coach Fabio Capello, Real Madrid bought Higuain for €12m.

With three Spanish league titles, 190 league games and 107 league goals in his six seasons with Real, it would be hard to argue that Higuain was a failure at Madrid. Yet for much of his time in the Spanish capital he was under pressure (in different seasons) from the likes of Ruud Van Nistelrooy, Raul, Karim Benzema and Cristiano Ronaldo for his team place. Coaches such as Bernd Schuster and then later Jose Mourinho had their doubts about where best to play him even if, when he lined up alongside Benzema and Ronaldo in the 2011-12 season, he formed part of a prolific attack that scored 118 goals, scoring 22 Liga goals himself.

In the end, the desire for continuity got the better of Higuain and Real let him go to Napoli for €40m in July 2013. Not only have Real never really voiced any sense of regret about his departure for Italy but many Spanish football commentators wonder if he really was worth the current €90m price tag. But anyone who watched Higuain in action in Italy last season would not have been surprised by Juventus' readiness to spend the money they got from selling Paul Pogba on Higuain.

Clearly, Juve have bought Higuain to not only score lots of goals in Serie A, but also to score important ones in the Champions League. And that will be the biggest challenge of his career so far. WS

National interest...Higuain was twice approached to represent France during his early career in Argentina with River Plate

Real deal... at Madrid

Key figure...Daniel Passarella

Clattered...pole-axed by Germany keeper Manuel Neuer in the 2014 World Cup Final

JUL 13, 2014
Has a goal disallowed against Germany in the World Cup Final with the score at 0-0. Argentina eventually lose in extra-time.

JUL 4, 2015
Misses one of the spot-kicks as Argentina are beaten in a penalty shoot-out by Chile in the Copa America Final.

NOV 8, 2015
Scores the 200th goal of his career in a 1-0 win at home to Udinese.

MAY 14, 2016
Scores a hat-trick against Frosinone to finish the season on 36 goals and equal Gino Rossetti's Serie A record.

JUN 27, 2016
Loses to Chile on penalties in the Final of the Copa America again.

AUG 20, 2016
After joining Juventus, he scores on his full debut in the opening match of the season, against Fiorentina.

Gonzalo Higuain

the numbers game

TRANSFER FEES (€m)

ARGENTINA

63

CAPS

GOALS

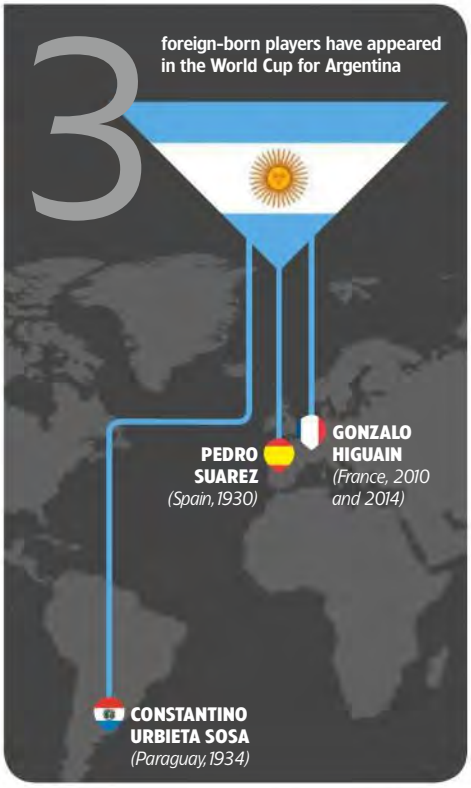
30

MOST GOALS IN A SERIE A SEASON

Gino **ROSSETTI** *(Torino, 1928-29)*	36
Gonzalo **HIGUAIN** *(Napoli, 2015-16)*	36
Ferenc **HIRZER** *(Juventus, 1925-26)*	35
Julio **LIBONATTI** *(Torino, 1927-28)*	35
Gunnar **NORDAHL** *(Milan, 1949-50)*	35

HONOURS

3 foreign-born players have appeared in the World Cup for Argentina

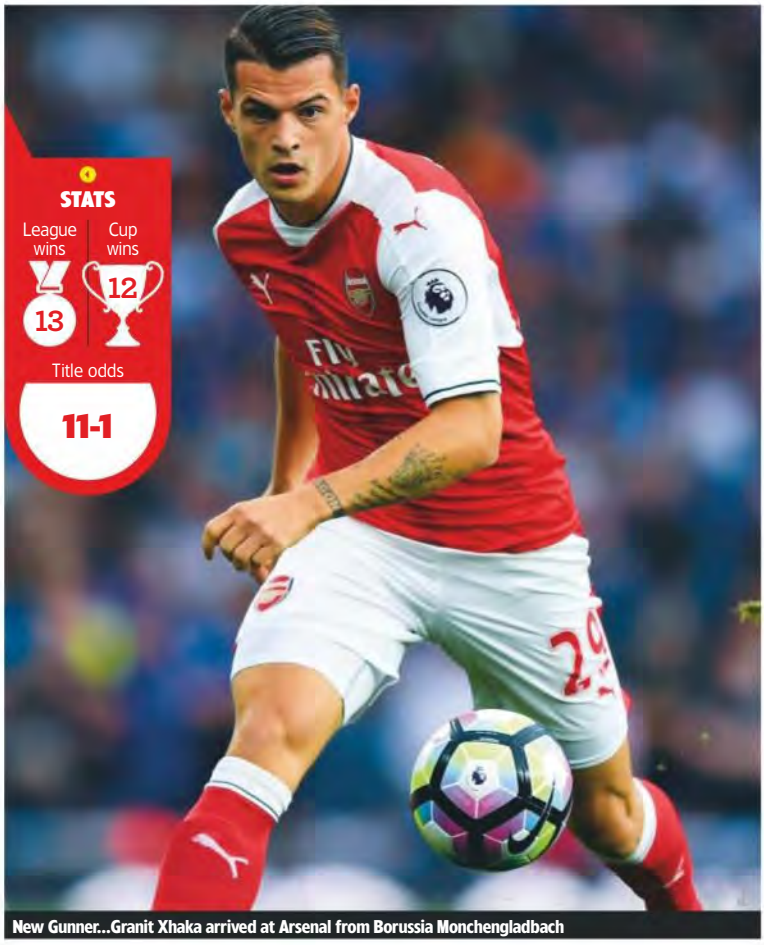


*(*up to & including 01.10.16)*

SQUAD LIST 2016-2017

ARSENAL

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	33 Petr **CECH** (CzR)	(34) 20.05.82	2015 / Chelsea
●	26 Emiliano **MARTINEZ** (Arg)	(24) 02.09.92	2010 / Independiente (Arg)
●	13 David **OSPINA** (Col)	(28) 31.08.88	2014 / Nice (Fra)
●	24 Hector **BELLERIN** (Spa)	(21) 19.03.95	2011 / Barcelona (Spa)
●	2 Mathieu **DEBUCHY** (Fra)	(31) 29.07.85	2014 / Newcastle United
●	5 **GABRIEL** (Bra)	(25) 26.11.90	2015 / Villarreal (Spa)
●	3 Kieran **GIBBS**	(27) 26.09.89	2004 / Wimbledon
●	16 Rob **HOLDING**	(21) 20.09.95	2016 / Bolton W
●	25 Carl **JENKINSON**	(24) 08.02.92	2011 / Charlton Athletic
●	6 Laurent **KOSCIELNY** (Fra)	(31) 10.09.85	2010 / Lorient (Fra)
●	4 Per **MERTESACKER** (Ger)	(32) 29.09.84	2011 / W Bremen (Ger)
●	18 Nacho **MONREAL** (Spa)	(30) 26.02.86	2013 / Malaga (Spa)
●	20 Shkodran **MUSTAFI** (Ger)	(24) 17.04.92	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
●	19 Santi **CAZORLA** (Spa)	(31) 13.12.84	2012 / Malaga (Spa)
●	34 Francis **COCQUELIN** (Fra)	(25) 13.05.91	2008 / Laval (Fra)
●	35 Mohamed **ELNENY** (Egy)	(24) 11.07.92	2016 / Basle (Swi)
●	15 Alex **OXLADE-CHAMBERLAIN**	(23) 15.08.93	2011 / Southampton
●	11 Mesut **OZIL** (Ger)	(27) 15.10.88	2013 / Real Madrid (Spa)
●	8 Aaron **RAMSEY** (Wal)	(25) 26.12.90	2008 / Cardiff City
●	31 Jeff **REINE-ADELAIDE** (Fra)	(18) 17.01.98	2015 / Lens (Fra)
●	29 Granit **XHAKA** (Swi)	(24) 27.09.92	2016 / B M'gladbach (Ger)
●	32 Chuba **AKPOM**	(20) 09.10.95	
●	12 Olivier **GIROUD** (Fra)	(30) 30.09.86	2012 / Montpellier (Fra)
●	17 Alex **IWOBI** (Nga)	(20) 03.05.96	
●	9 Lucas **PEREZ** (Spa)	(28) 10.09.88	2016 / Dep Coruna (Spa)
●	7 Alexis **SANCHEZ** (Chl)	(27) 19.12.88	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
●	22 Yaya **SANOGO** (Fra)	(23) 27.01.93	2013 / Auxerre (Fra)
●	14 Theo **WALCOTT**	(27) 16.03.89	2006 / Southampton
●	23 Danny **WELBECK**	(25) 26.11.90	2014 / Manchester Utd
●	**Arsene WENGER** (Fra)	(66) 22.10.49	1996 / Grampus Eight (Jap)



New Gunner...Granit Xhaka arrived at Arsenal from Borussia Monchengladbach

BOURNEMOUTH

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	21 Ryan **ALLSOP**	(24) 17.06.92	2013 / Leyton Orient
●	1 Artur **BORUC** (Pol)	(36) 20.02.80	2015 / Southampton
●	23 Adam **FEDERICI** (Aus)	(31) 31.01.85	2015 / Reading
●	45 Jordan **HOLMES** (Aus)	(19) 08.05.97	
●	5 Nathan **AKE** (Hol)	(21) 18.02.95	2016 / Chelsea loan
●	43 Callum **BUCKLEY**	(20) 12.01.96	
●	3 Steve **COOK**	(25) 19.04.91	2012 / Brighton & HA
●	11 Charlie **DANIELS**	(30) 07.09.86	2012 / Leyton Orient
●	2 Simon **FRANCIS**	(31) 16.02.85	2012 / Charlton Athletic
●	45 Jordan **LEE**	(19) 31.12.96	
●	26 Tyrone **MINGS**	(24) 27.02.92	2015 / Ipswich Town
●	15 Adam **SMITH**	(25) 29.04.91	2014 / Tottenham H
●	14 Brad **SMITH** (Aus)	(22) 09.04.94	2016 / Liverpool
●	20 Marc **WILSON** (RoI)	(29) 17.08.87	2016 / Stoke City
●	8 Harry **ARTER** (RoI)	(26) 28.12.89	2010 / Woking
●	18 Lewis **COOK**	(19) 03.02.97	2016 / Leeds United
●	24 Ryan **FRASER** (Sco)	(22) 24.02.94	2013 / Aberdeen (Sco)
●	4 Dan **GOSLING**	(26) 01.02.90	2014 / Newcastle United
●	10 Max **GRADEL** (IvC)	(28) 30.11.87	2015 / St-Etienne (Fra)
●	22 Emerson **HYNDMAN** (USA)	(20) 09.04.96	2016 / Fulham
●	33 Jordon **IBE**	(20) 08.12.95	2016 / Liverpool
●	7 Marc **PUGH**	(29) 02.04.87	2010 / Hereford United
●	19 Junior **STANISLAS**	(26) 26.11.89	2014 / Burnley
●	6 Andrew **SURMAN**	(30) 20.08.86	2014 / Norwich City
●	32 Jack **WILSHERE**	(24) 01.01.92	2016 / Arsenal loan
●	9 Benik **AFOBE**	(23) 12.02.93	2016 / Wolves
●	28 Lewis **GRABBAN** (Jam)	(28) 12.01.88	2016 / Norwich City
●	17 Joshua **KING** (Nor)	(24) 15.01.92	2015 / Blackburn Rovers
●	31 Lys **MOUSSET** (Fra)	(20) 08.02.96	2016 / Le Havre (Fra)
●	13 Callum **WILSON**	(24) 27.02.92	2014 / Coventry City
●	**Eddie HOWE**	(38) 29.11.77	2012 / Burnely

BURNLEY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	1 Tom **HEATON**	(30) 15.04.86	2013 / Bristol City
●	29 Nick **POPE**	(24) 19.04.92	2016 / Charlton Athletic
●	17 Paul **ROBINSON**	(36) 15.10.79	2016 / Blackburn Rovers
●	27 Tendayi **DARIKWA**	(24) 13.12.91	2015 / Chesterfield
●	4 Jon **FLANAGAN**	(23) 01.01.93	2016 / Liverpool loan
●	5 Michael **KEANE**	(23) 11.01.93	2015 / Manchester United
●	28 Kevin **LONG** (RoI)	(26) 18.08.90	2010 / Cork City (Ire)
●	2 Matthew **LOWTON**	(27) 09.06.89	2015 / Aston Villa
●	6 Ben **MEE**	(27) 21.09.89	2012 / Manchester City
●	26 James **TARKOWSKI**	(23) 19.11.92	2016 / Brentford
●	23 Stephen **WARD** (RoI)	(31) 20.08.85	2014 / Wolves
●	37 Scott **ARFIELD** (Can)	(27) 01.11.88	2013 / Huddersfield Town
●	21 George **BOYD** (Sco)	(31) 02.10.85	2014 / Hull City
●	16 Steven **DEFOUR** (Blg)	(28) 15.04.88	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
●	25 Johann Berg **GUDMUNDSSON** (Ice)	(25) 27.10.90	2016 / Charlton Ath
●	13 Jeff **HENDRICK** (RoI)	(24) 31.01.92	2016 / Derby County
●	11 Michael **KIGHTLY**	(30) 24.01.86	2014 / Stoke City
●	8 Dean **MARNEY**	(32) 31.01.84	2010 / Hull City
●	41 Aiden **O'NEILL** (Aus)	(18) 04.07.98	2012 / Brisbane Ath (Aus)
●	15 Patrick **BAMFORD**	(23) 05.09.93	2016 / Chelsea loan
●	10 Ashley **BARNES** (Aut)	(26) 30.10.89	2014 / Brighton & HA
●	7 Andre **GRAY**	(25) 26.06.91	2015 / Brentford
●	9 Sam **VOKES** (Wal)	(26) 21.10.89	2012 / Wolves
●	**Sean DYCHE**	(45) 28.06.71	2012 / Watford

CHELSEA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Asmir **BEGOVIC** (Bos)	(29) 20.06.87	2015 / Stoke City
13	Thibaut **COURTOIS** (Blg)	(24) 11.05.92	2011 / Genk (Blg)
37	**EDUARDO** (Por)	(34) 19.09.82	2016 / D Zagreb (Cro)
34	Ola **AINA**	(19) 08.10.96	
3	Marcos **ALONSO** (Spa)	(25) 28.12.90	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita)
28	Cesar **AZPILICUETA** (Spa)	(27) 28.08.89	2012 / Marseille (Fra)
24	Gary **CAHILL**	(30) 19.12.85	2012 / Bolton Wanderers
2	Branislav **IVANOVIC** (Ser)	(32) 22.02.84	2008 / Lok Moscow (Rus)
30	David **LUIZ** (Bra)	(29) 22.04.87	2016 / PSG (Fra)
26	John **TERRY**	(35) 07.12.80	
33	Fikayo **TOMORI**	(18) 19.12.97	
5	Kurt **ZOUMA** (Fra)	(21) 27.10.94	2014 / Saint-Etienne (Fra)
29	Nathaniel **CHALOBAH**	(21) 12.12.94	
4	Cesc **FABREGAS** (Spa)	(29) 04.05.87	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
10	Eden **HAZARD** (Blg)	(25) 07.01.91	2012 / Lille (Fra)
7	N'Golo **KANTE** (Fra)	(25) 29.03.91	2016 / Leicester City
14	Ruben **LOFTUS-CHEEK**	(20) 23.01.96	
21	Nemanja **MATIC** (Ser)	(28) 01.08.88	2014 / Benfica (Por)
15	Victor **MOSES** (Nga)	(25) 12.12.90	2012 / Wigan Athletic
12	John **OBI MIKEL** (Nga)	(29) 22.04.87	2006 / Lyn (Nor)
8	**OSCAR** (Bra)	(25) 09.09.91	2012 / Internacional (Bra)
11	**PEDRO** (Spa)	(29) 28.07.87	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
-	Marco **VAN GINKEL** (Hol)	(23) 01.12.92	2013 / Vitesse (Hol)
22	**WILLIAN** (Bra)	(28) 09.08.88	2013 / Shakhtar D (Ukr)
23	Michy **BATSHUAYI** (Blg)	(23) 02.10.93	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
19	Diego **COSTA** (Spa)	(28) 07.10.88	2014 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
41	Dominic **SOLANKE**	(19) 14.09.97	
●	**Antonio CONTE** (Ita)	(47) 31.07.69	2016 / Italy

STATS

League wins: 5

Cup wins: 7

Title odds: **5-1**

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 0

Title odds: **750-1**

CRYSTAL PALACE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Wayne **HENNESSEY** (Wal)	(29) 24.01.87	2014 / Wolves
30	Steve **MANDANDA** (Fra)	(31) 28.03.85	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
1	Julian **SPERONI** (Arg)	(37) 18.05.79	2004 / Dundee (Sco)
6	Scott **DANN**	(29) 14.02.87	2014 / Blackburn Rovers
27	Damien **DELANEY** (RoI)	(35) 20.07.81	2012 / Ipswich Town
19	Zeki **FRYERS**	(24) 09.09.92	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
34	Martin **KELLY**	(26) 27.04.90	2014 / Liverpool
23	Pape **SOUARE** (Sen)	(26) 06.06.90	2015 / Lille (Fra)
5	James **TOMKINS**	(27) 29.03.89	2016 / West Ham United
2	Joel **WARD**	(26) 29.10.89	2012 / Portsmouth
7	Yohan **CABAYE** (Fra)	(30) 14.01.86	2015 / PSG (Fra)
4	Mathieu **FLAMINI** (Fra)	(32) 07.0384	2016 / Arsenal
16	Joe **LEDLEY** (Wal)	(29) 23.01.87	2014 / Celtic (Sco)
14	**LEE** Chung-yong (SKo)	(28) 02.07.88	2015 / Bolton W
18	James **McARTHUR** (Sco)	(29) 07.10.87	2014 / Wigan Athelteic
22	Jordon **MUTCH**	(24) 02.12.91	2015 / QPR
42	Jason **PUNCHEON**	(30) 26.06.86	2013 / Southampton
26	Bakary **SAKO** (Mli)	(28) 26.04.88	2015 / Wolves
10	Andros **TOWNSEND**	(25) 16.07.91	2016 / Newcastle United
11	Wilfried **ZAHA**	(23) 10.11.92	2015 / Manchester United
17	Christian **BENTEKE** (Blg)	(25) 03.12.90	2016 / Liverpool
15	Jonathan **BENTEKE** (Blg)	(21) 28.04.95	2016 / Z Waregem (Blg)
9	Fraizer **CAMPBELL**	(29) 13.08.87	2014 / Cardiff City
8	Loic **REMY** (Fra)	(29) 02.01.87	2016 / Chelsea loan
21	Connor **WICKHAM**	(23) 31.03.93	2015 / Sunderland
●	**Alan PARDEW**	(55) 18.07.61	2015 / Newcastle United

Battle...Chelsea's Gary Cahill climbs above Dean Marney of Burnley

New..Idrissa Gueye of Everton

STATS

League wins: 9

Cup wins: 5

Title odds: **66-1**

EVERTON

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Joel **ROBLES** (Spa)	(26) 17.06.90	2013 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
22	Maarten **STEKELENBURG** (Hol)	(34) 22.09.82	2016 / Fulham
3	Leighton **BAINES**	(31) 11.12.84	2007 / Wigan Athletic
27	Tyias **BROWNING**	(22) 27.05.94	
23	Seamus **COLEMAN** (RoI)	(27) 11.10.88	2009 / Sligo Rovers (RoI)
25	Ramiro **FUNES MORI** (Arg)	(25) 05.03.91	2015 / River Plate (Arg)
30	Mason **HOLGATE**	(19) 22.10.96	2015 / Barnsley
6	Phil **JAGIELKA**	(34) 17.08.82	2007 / Sheffield United
20	Bryan **OVIEDO** (CR)	(26) 18.02.90	2012 / Copenhagen (Den)
38	Matthew **PENNINGTON**	(21) 06.10.94	
5	Ashley **WILLIAMS** (Wal)	(32) 23.08.84	2016 / Swansea City
8	Ross **BARKLEY**	(22) 05.12.93	
18	Gareth **BARRY**	(35) 23.02.81	2013 / Manchester City
14	Yannick **BOLASIE** (DRC)	(27) 24.05.89	2016 / Crystal Palace
21	Muhamed **BESIC** (Bos)	(24) 10.09.92	2015 / Ferencvaros (Hun)
15	Tom **CLEVERLEY**	(27) 12.08.89	2015 / Manchester United
26	Tom **DAVIES**	(18) 30.06.98	
28	Kieran **DOWELL**	(18) 10.10.97	
4	Darron **GIBSON** (RoI)	(28) 25.10.87	2012 / Manchester United
17	Idrissa **GUEYE** (Sen)	(27) 26.09.89	2016 / Aston Villa
12	Aaron **LENNON**	(29) 16.04.87	2015 / Tottenham Hotspur
16	James **McCARTHY** (RoI)	(25) 12.11.90	2013 / Wigan Athletic
7	Gerard **DEULOFEU** (Spa)	(22) 13.03.94	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
9	Arouna **KONE** (IvC)	(32) 11.11.83	2013 / Wigan Athletic
10	Romelu **LUKAKU** (Blg)	(23) 13.05.93	2014 / Chelsea
67	Conor **McALENY**	(24) 12.08.92	
11	Kevin **MIRALLAS** (Blg)	(29) 05.10.87	2012/Olympiakos (Gre)
-	Oumar **NIASSE** (Sen)	(26) 18.04.90	2016 /Lok Moscow (Rus)
-	Leandro **RODRIGUEZ** (Uru)	(23) 19.11.92	2015 / River Plate (Uru)
19	Enner **VALENCIA** (Ecu)	(26) 04.11.89	2016 / West Ham loan
●	**Ronald KOEMAN** (Hol)	(53) 21.03.63	2016 / Southampton

HULL CITY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
12	Dusan **KUCIAK** (Slk)	(31) 21.05.85	2016 / Legia Warsaw (Pol)
16	Eldin **JAKUPOVIC** (Swi)	(31) 02.10.84	2012 / Aris (Gre)
35	Will **MANNION**	(18) 01.04.98	2016 / AFC Wimbledon
23	David **MARSHALL** (Sco)	(31) 05.03.85	2016 / Cardiff City
1	Allan **McGREGOR** (Sco)	(34) 31.01.82	2013 / Besiktas (Tur)
4	Alex **BRUCE** (NI)	(31) 28.09.84	2012 / Leeds United
37	Josh **CLACKSTONE**	(19) 18.09.96	
6	Curtis **DAVIES**	(31) 15.03.85	2013 / Birmingham City
21	Michael **DAWSON**	(32) 18.11.83	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
31	Brian **LENIHAN** (RoI)	(22) 08.06.94	2014 / Cork City (RoI)
5	Harry **MAGUIRE**	(24) 05.03.93	2014 / Sheffield United
2	Moses **ODUBAJO**	(23) 28.07.93	2015 / Brentford
3	Andrew **ROBERTSON** (Sco)	(22) 11.03.94	2014 / Dundee U (Sco)
38	Harvey **RODGERS**	(19) 20.10.96	
28	Josh **TYMON**	(17) 22.05.99	
11	Sam **CLUCAS**	(25) 25.09.90	2015 / Chesterfield
27	Ahmed **ELMOHAMADY** (Egy)	(29) 09.09.87	2013 / Sunderland
22	Markus **HENRIKSEN** (Nor)	(24) 25.07.92	2016 / AZ (Hol)
8	Tom **HUDDLESTONE**	(29) 28.12.86	2013 / Tottenham Hotspur
14	Jake **LIVERMORE**	(26) 14.11.89	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
15	Shaun **MALONEY** (Sco)	(33) 24.01.83	2015 / Chicago Fire (USA)
25	Ryan **MASON**	(25) 13.06.91	2016 / Tottenham H
7	David **MEYLER** (RoI)	(27) 29.05.89	2013 / Sunderland
36	Greg **OLLEY**	(20) 02.02.96	2015 / Newcastle United
10	Robert **SNODGRASS** (Sco)	(29) 07.09.87	2014 / Norwich City
17	James **WEIR**	(21) 04.08.95	2016 / Manchester Utd
29	Jarrod **BOWEN**	(19) 20.12.96	2014 / Hereford United
20	Adama **DIOMANDE** (Nor)	(26) 14.02.90	2015 / Stabaek (Nor)
9	Abel **HERNANDEZ** (Uru)	(26) 08.08.90	2014 / Palermo (Ita)
39	Ben **HINCHLIFFE**	(18) 25.09.97	
19	Will **KEANE**	(23) 11.01.93	2016 / Manchester Utd
32	Greg **LUER**	(21) 06.12.94	2015 / Burgess Hill Town
18	Dieumerci **MBOKANI** (DRC)	(30) 22.11.85	2016 / D Kiev (Ukr) loan

● **Mike PHELAN** (caretaker) (54) 24.09.62 2015 / Hull City assistant manager

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **750-1**

LEICESTER CITY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
12	Ben **HAMER**	(28) 20.11.87	2014 / Charlton Athletic
1	Kasper **SCHMEICHEL** (Den)	(29) 05.11.86	2011 / Leeds United
21	Ron-Robert **ZIELER** (Ger)	(27) 12.02.89	2016 / Hanover (Ger)
–	Yohan **BENALOUANE** (Tun)	(29) 28.03.87	2015 / Atalanta (Ita)
3	Ben **CHILWELL**	(19) 21.12.96	
28	Christian **FUCHS** (Aut)	(30) 07.04.86	2015 / Schalke (Ger)
2	Luis **HERNANDEZ** (Spa)	(27) 14.04.89	2016 / Sp Gijon (Spa)
6	Robert **HUTH** (Ger)	(32) 18.08.84	2015 / Stoke City
5	Wes **MORGAN** (Jam)	(32) 21.01.84	2012 / Nottingham Forest
17	Danny **SIMPSON**	(29) 04.01.87	2014 / QPR
27	Marcin **WASILEWSKI** (Blg)	(36) 09.06.80	2013 / Anderlecht (Blg)
11	Marc **ALBRIGHTON**	(26) 18.11.89	2014 / Aston Villa
13	Daniel **AMARTEY** (Gha)	(21) 21.12.94	2016 / Copenhagen (Den)
4	Danny **DRINKWATER**	(26) 05.03.90	2011 / Manchester United
22	Demarai **GRAY**	(20) 28.06.96	2016 / Birmingham City
8	Matty **JAMES**	(25) 22.07.91	2012 / Manchester United
14	Bartosz **KAPUSTKA** (Pol)	(19) 23.12.96	2016 / Cracovia (Pol)
10	Andy **KING** (Wal)	(27) 29.10.88	2004 / Chelsea
26	Riyad **MAHREZ** (Alg)	(25) 21.02.91	2014 / Le Havre (Fra)
24	Nampalys **MENDY** (Fra)	(24) 23.06.92	2016 / Nice (Fra)
15	Jeff **SCHLUPP** (Gha)	(23) 23.12.92	
7	Ahmed **MUSA** (Nga)	(23) 14.10.92	2016 / CSKA Moscow (Rus)
20	Shinji **OKAZAKI** (Jap)	(30) 16.04.86	2015 / Mainz (Ger)
19	Islam **SLIMANI** (Alg)	(28) 18.06.88	2016 / Sporting (Por)
23	Leonardo **ULLOA** (Arg)	(30) 26.07.86	2014 / Brighton & HA
9	Jamie **VARDY**	(29) 11.01.87	2012 / Fleetwood Town

● **Claudio RANIERI** (Ita) (64) 20.10.51 2015 / Greece

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
1	0

Title odds **100-1**

LIVERPOOL

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Loris **KARIUS** (Ger)	(23) 22.06.93	2016 / Mainz (Ger)
13	Alex **MANNINGER** (Aut)	(39) 04.06.77	2016 / Augsburg (Ger)
22	Simon **MIGNOLET** (Blg)	(28) 06.03.88	2013 / Sunderland
2	Nathaniel **CLYNE**	(25) 05.04.91	2015 / Southampton
12	Joe **GOMEZ**	(19) 23.05.97	2015 / Charlton Athletic
26	Tiago **ILORI** (Por)	(23) 26.02.93	2013 / Sporting (Por)
17	Ragnar **KLAVAN** (Est)	(30) 30.10.85	2016 / Augsburg (Ger)
6	Dejan **LOVREN** (Cro)	(27) 05.07.89	2014 / Southampton
32	Joel **MATIP** (Cam	(25) 08.08.91	2016 / Schalke (Ger)
18	Alberto **MORENO** (Spa)	(24) 05.07.92	2014 / Sevilla (Spa)
56	Connor **RANDALL**	(20) 21.10.95	
3	Mamadou **SAKHO** (Fra)	(26) 13.02.90	2013 / PSG (Fra)
66	Trent **ALEXANDER-ARNOLD**	(18) 07.10.98	
25	Cameron **BRANNAGAN**	(20) 09.05.96	
23	Emre **CAN** (Ger)	(22) 12.01.94	2014 / Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)
68	Pedro **CHIRIVELLA** (Spa)	(19) 23.05.97	2013 / Valencia (Spa)
10	Philippe **COUTINHO** (Bra)	(24) 12.06.92	2013 / Internazionale (Ita)
16	Marko **GRUJIC** (Ser)	(20) 13.04.96	2016 / Red Star (Ser)
14	Jordan **HENDERSON**	(26) 17.06.90	2011 / Sunderland
20	Adam **LALLANA**	(28) 10.05.88	2014 / Southampton
21	**LUCAS** Leiva (Bra)	(29) 09.01.87	2007 / Gremio (Bra)
7	James **MILNER**	(30) 04.01.86	2015 / Manchester City
54	Sheyi **OJO**	(19) 19.06.97	2011 / MK Dons
35	Kevin **STEWART**	(23) 07.09.93	2014 / Tottenham H
5	Georginio **WIJNALDUM** (Hol)	(25) 11.11.90	2016 / Newcastle United
11	Roberto **FIRMINO** (Bra)	(24) 02.20.91	2015 / Hoffenheim (Ger)
28	Danny **INGS**	(24) 23.07.92	2015 / Burnley
19	Sadio **MANE** (Sen)	(24) 10.04.92	2016 / Southampton
27	Divock **ORIGI** (Blg)	(21) 18.04.95	2014 / Lille (Fra)
15	Daniel **STURRIDGE**	(27) 01.09.89	2013 / Chelsea

● **Jurgen KLOPP** (Ger) (49) 16.06.67 2015 / Bor Dortmund (Ger)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
18	7

Title odds **11-1**

MANCHESTER CITY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Claudio **BRAVO** (Chl)	(33) 13.04.83	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
13	Willy **CABALLERO** (Arg)	(35) 28.09.81	2014 / Malaga (Spa)
54	Angus **GUNN**	(20) 22.01.96	2011 / Norwich City
53	Tosin **ADARABIOYO**	(19) 24.09.97	
69	**ANGELINO** (Spa)	(19) 04.01.97	2013 / Dep Coruna (Spa)
22	Gael **CLICHY** (Fra)	(31) 26.07.85	2011 / Arsenal
11	Aleksandar **KOLAROV** (Ser)	(30) 10.11.85	2010 / Lazio (Ita)
4	Vincent **KOMPANY** (Blg)	(30) 10.04.86	2008 / Hamburg (Ger)
50	Pablo **MAFFEO** (Spa)	(19) 12.07.97	2013 / Espanyol (Spa)
30	Nicolas **OTAMENDI** (Arg)	(28) 12.02.88	2015 / Valencia (Spa)
3	Bacary **SAGNA** (FRa)	(33) 14.02.83	2014 / Arsenal
24	John **STONES**	(22) 28.05.94	2016 / Everton
5	Pablo **ZABALETA** (Arg)	(31) 16.01.85	2008 / Espanyol (Spa)
17	Kevin **DE BRUYNE** (Blg)	(25) 28.06.91	2015 / Wolfsburg (Ger)
18	Fabian **DELPH**	(26) 21.11.89	2015 / Aston Villa
25	**FERNANDINHO** (Bra)	(31) 04.05.85	2013 / Shakhtar D (Ukr)
6	**FERNANDO** (Bra)	(29) 25.07.87	2014 / Porto (Por)
75	Alex **GARCIA** (Spa)	(19) 28.06.97	2015 / Villarreal (Spa)
8	Ilkay **GUNDOGAN** (Ger)	(25) 24.10.90	2016 / Dortmund (Ger)
15	Jesus **NAVAS** (Spa)	(30) 21.11.85	2013 / Sevilla (Spa)
19	Leroy **SANE** (Ger)	(20) 11.01.96	2016 / Schalke (Ger)
21	David **SILVA** (Spa)	(30) 08.01.86	2010 / Valencia (Spa)
7	Raheem **STERLING**	(21) 08.12.94	2015 / Liverpool
42	Yaya **TOURE** (IvC)	(33) 13.05.83	2010 / Barcelona (Spa)
10	Sergio **AGUERO** (Arg)	(28) 02.06.88	2011 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
72	Kelechi **IHEANACHO** (Nga)	(20) 03.10.96	
9	**NOLITO** (Spa)	(29) 15.10.86	2016 / Celta Vigo (Spa)

● **Pep GUARDIOLA** (Spa) (45) 18.01.71 2016 / Bayern M (Ger)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
4	5

Title odds **10-11**

MANCHESTER UNITED

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	David **DE GEA** (Spa)	(25) 07.11.90	2011 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
32	Sam **JOHNSTONE**	(23) 25.03.93	
20	Sergio **ROMERO** (Arg)	(29) 22.02.87	2015 / Sampdoria (Ita)
3	Eric **BAILLY** (IvC)	(22) 12.04.94	2016 / Villarreal (Spa)
17	Daley **BLIND** (Hol)	(26) 09.03.90	2014 / Ajax (Hol)
36	Matteo **DARMIAN** (Ita)	(26) 02.12.89	2015 / Torino (Ita)
24	Timothy **FOSU-MENSAH** (Hol)	(18) 02.01.98	2014 / Ajax (Hol)
4	Phil **JONES**	(24) 21.02.92	2011 / Blackburn Rovers
5	Marcos **ROJO** (Arg)	(26) 20.03.90	2014 / Sporting (Por)
23	Luke **SHAW**	(21) 12.07.95	2014 / Southampton
12	Chris **SMALLING**	(26) 22.11.89	2010 / Fulham
38	Axel **TUANZEBE**	(18) 14.11.97	
16	Michael **CARRICK**	(35) 28.07.81	2006 / Tottenham H
27	Marouane **FELLAINI** (Blg)	(28) 22.11.87	2013 / Everton
21	Ander **HERRERA** (Spa)	(27) 14.08.89	2014 / Athletic Bllbao (Spa)
14	Jesse **LINGARD**	(23) 15.12.92	
8	Juan **MATA** (Spa)	(28) 28.04.88	2014 / Chelsea
22	Henrikh **MKHITARYAN** (Arm)	(27) 21.01.89	2016 / B Dortmund (Ger)
6	Paul **POGBA** (Fra)	(23) 15.03.93	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
28	Morgan **SCHNEIDERLIN** (Fra)	(26) 08.11.89	2015 / Southampton
31	Bastian **SCHWEINSTEIGER** (Ger)	(32) 01.08.84	2015/B Munich (Ger)
25	Antonio **VALENCIA** (Ecu)	(31) 04.08.85	2009 / Wigan Athletic
18	Ashley **YOUNG**	(31) 09.07.85	2011 / Aston Villa
7	Memphis **DEPAY** (Hol)	(22) 13.02.94	2015 / PSV (Hol)
9	Zlatan **IBRAHIMOVIC** (Swe)	(35) 03.10.81	2016 / PSG (Fra)
11	Anthony **MARTIAL** (Fra)	(20) 05.12.95	2015 / Monaco (Fra)
10	Wayne **ROONEY**	(30) 24.10.85	2004 / Everton
19	Marcus **RASHFORD**	(18) 31.10.97	
●	**Jose MOURINHO** (Por)	(53) 26.01.63	2016 / Chelsea

STATS

League wins: 20

Cup wins: 12

Title odds: 9-2

Derby day...Zlatan Ibrahimovic (in red) gets involved against Manchester City

Boro boy...Adam Forshaw of Middlesbrough, who won promotion last season

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 0

Odds: 750-1

MIDDLESBROUGH

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
12	Brad **GUZAN** (USA)	(32) 09.09.84	2016 / Aston Villa
1	Dimitr's **KONSTANTOPOULOS** (Gre)	(37) 29.11.78	2103 / AEK (Gre)
13	Tomas **MEJIAS** (Spa)	(27) 30.01.89	2014/Real Madrid (Spa)
26	Victor **VALDES** (Spa)	(34) 14.01.82	2016 / Manchester Utd
4	Daniel **AYALA** (Spa)	(25) 07.11.90	2014 / Norwich City
17	Antonio **BARRAGAN** (Spa)	(29) 12.06.87	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
25	Calum **CHAMBERS**	(21) 20.01.95	2016 / Arsenal loan
5	Bernardo **ESPINOSA** (Col)	(27) 11.07.89	2016 / Sp Gijon (Spa)
2	**FABIO** (Bra)	(26) 09.07.90	2016 / Cardiff City
3	George **FRIEND**	(28) 17.10.87	2012 / Doncaster Rovers
6	Ben **GIBSON**	(23) 15.01.93	
40	James **HUSBAND**	(22) 03.01.94	2014 / Doncaster Rovers
8	Adam **CLAYTON**	(27) 14.01.89	2014 / Huddersfield T
16	Carlos **DE PENA** (Uru)	(24) 11.03.92	2015 / Nacional (Uru)
14	Marten **DE ROON** (Hol)	(25) 29.03.91	2016 / Atalanta (Ita)
23	Julien **DE SART** (Blg)	(21) 23.12.94	2016 / Standard Liege (Blg)
19	Stewart **DOWNING**	(32) 22.07.84	2015 / West Ham United
34	Adam **FORSHAW**	(25) 08.10.91	2015 / Wigan Athletic
7	Grant **LEADBITTER**	(30) 07.01.86	2012 / Ipswich Town
24	Emilio **NSUE** (EqG)	(27) 30.09.89	2014 / Mallorca (Spa)
21	Gaston **RAMIREZ** (Uru)	(25) 02.12.90	2016 / Southampton
37	Adama **TRAORE** (Spa)	(20) 25.01.96	2016 / Aston Villa
11	Viktor **FISCHER** (Den)	(22) 09.06.94	2016 / Ajax (Hol)
10	Alvaro **NEGREDO** (Spa)	(31) 20.08.85	2016/ Valencia (Spa) loan
35	David **NUGENT**	(31) 02.05.85	2105 / Leicester City
9	Jordan **RHODES** (Sco)	(26) 05.02.90	2016 / Blackburn Rovers
18	Cristhian **STUANI** (Uru)	(29) 12.10.86	2015 / Espanyol (Spa)
●	**Aitor KARANKA** (Spa)	(43) 18.09.73	2013 / R Madrid (Spa) assist

SOUTHAMPTON

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Fraser **FORSTER**	(28) 17.03.88	2014 / Celtic (Sco)
13	Alex **McCARTHY**	(26) 03.12.89	2016 / Crystal Palace
28	Stuart **TAYLOR**	(35) 28.11.80	2016 / Leeds United
21	Ryan **BERTRAND**	(27) 05.08.89	2014 / Chelsea
2	**CEDRIC** (Por)	(25) 31.08.91	2015 / Sporting (Por)
6	Jose **FONTE** (Por)	(32) 22.12.83	2010 / Crystal Palace
5	Florin **GARDOS** (Rom)	(27) 19.10.88	2014 / Steaua (Rom)
15	Cuco **MARTINA** (Cur)	(27) 25.09.89	2015 / Twente (Hol)
26	Jeremy **PIED** (Fra)	(27) 23.02.89	2016 / Nice (Fra)
24	Jack **STEPHENS**	(22) 27.01.94	2011 / Plymouth Argyle
33	Matt **TARGETT**	(21) 18.09.95	
3	Maya **YOSHIDA** (Jap)	(28) 24.08.88	2012 / VVV Venlo (Hol)
17	Virgil **VAN DIJK** (Hol)	(25) 08.07.91	2015 / Celtic (Sco)
19	Sofiane **BOUFAL** (Mor)	(23) 17.09.93	2016 / Lille (Fra)
4	Jordy **CLASIE** (Hol)	(25) 27.06.91	2015 / Feyenoord (Hol)
8	Steven **DAVIS** (NI)	(31) 01.01.85	2012 / Fulham
23	Pierre-Emile **HOJBJERG** (Den)	(21) 05.08.95	2016 / Bayern M (Ger)
27	Lloyd **ISGROVE** (Wal)	(23) 12.01.93	
38	Sam **McQUEEN**	(21) 06.02.95	
22	Nathan **REDMOND**	(22) 06.03.94	2016 / Norwich City
18	Harrison **REED**	(21) 27.01.95	
14	Oriol **ROMEU** (Spa)	(25) 24.09.91	2015 / Chelsea
11	Dusan **TADIC** (Ser)	(27) 20.11.88	2014 / Twente (Hol)
16	James **WARD-PROWSE**	(21) 01.11.94	
10	Charlie **AUSTIN**	(27) 05.07.89	2016 / QPR
7	Shane **LONG** (RoI)	(29) 22.01.87	2014 / Hull City
9	Jay **RODRIGUEZ**	(27) 29.07.89	2012 / Burnley
●	**Claude PUEL** (Fra)	(55) 02.09.61	2016 / Nice (Fra)

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 1

Title odds: **750-1**

Cool...Southampton's Jose Fonte defends against Sunderland

Strong...Stoke's Wilfried Bony hold off Dele Alli of Tottenham

STOKE CITY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
35	Daniel **BACHMANN** (Aut)	(22) 09.07.94	2011 / Austria Vienna (Aut)
1	Jack **BUTLAND**	(23) 10.03.93	2013 / Birmingham City
24	Shay **GIVEN** (RoI)	(40) 20.04.76	2015 / Aston Villa
33	Lee **GRANT**	(33) 27.01.83	2016 / Derby County loan
29	Jakob **HAUGAARD** (Den)	(24) 01.05.92	2015 / Midtjylland (Den)
2	Phil **BARDSLEY** (Sco)	(31) 28.06.85	2014 / Sunderland
20	Geoff **CAMERON** (USA)	(31) 11.07.85	2012 / Houston D (USA)
8	Glen **JOHNSON**	(32) 23.08.84	2015 / Liverpool
15	Bruno **MARTINS INDI** (Hol)	(24) 08.02.92	2016 / Porto (Por) loan
5	Marc **MUNIESA** (Spa)	(24) 27.03.92	2013 / Barcelona (Spa)
3	Erik **PIETERS** (Hol)	(28) 07.08.88	2013 / PSV (Hol)
17	Ryan **SHAWCROSS**	(28) 04.10.87	2008 / Manchester United
23	Dionatan **TEIXEIRA** (Slk)	(24) 24.07.92	2014 / Dukla B B (Slk)
16	Charlie **ADAM** (Sco)	(30) 10.12.85	2012 / Liverpool
14	Ibrahim **AFELLAY** (Hol)	(30) 02.04.86	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
4	Joe **ALLEN** (Wal)	(26) 14.03.90	2016 / Liverpool
21	Giannelli **IMBULA** (Fra)	(24) 12.09.92	2016 / Porto (Por)
7	Stephen **IRELAND** (RoI)	(30) 22.08.86	2014 / Aston Villa
34	Ollie **SHENTON**	(18) 06.11.97	
22	Xherdan **SHAQIRI** (Swi)	(24) 10.10.91	2015 / Internazionale (Ita)
32	Ramadan **SOBHI** (Egy)	(19) 27.06.97	2016 / Al Ahly (Egy)
6	Glenn **WHELAN** (RoI)	(32) 13.01.84	2008 / Sheffield Wed
10	Marko **ARNAUTOVIC** (Aut)	(27) 19.04.89	2013 / W Bremen (Ger)
27	**BOJAN** Krkic (Spa)	(26) 28.08.90	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
12	Wilfried **BONY** (IvC)	(27) 10.12.88	2016 / Man City loan
25	Peter **CROUCH**	(35) 30.01.81	2011 / Tottenham Hotspur
18	Mame Biram **DIOUF** (Sen)	(28) 16.12.87	2014 / Hanover (Ger)
45	Julien **NGOY** (Blg)	(18) 02.11.97	2013 / Club Brugge (Blg)
19	Jonathan **WALTERS** (RoI)	(33) 20.09.83	2010 / Ipswich Town
●	**Mark HUGHES** (Wal)	(52) 01.11.63	2013 / QPR

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 0

Title odds: **500-1**

SUNDERLAND

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Vito **MANNONE** (Ita)	(28) 02.03.88	2005 / Atalanta (Ita)
12	**MIKA** (Por)	(25) 08.03.91	2016 / Boavista (Por)
13	Jordan **PICKFORD**	(22) 07.03.94	
32	Maksymilian **STRYJEK** (Pol)	(20) 18.07.96	2013 / Polonia Warsaw (Pol)
4	Jason **DENAYER** (Blg)	(21) 28.06.95	2016 / Man City loan
5	Papy **DJILOBODJI** (Sen)	(27) 01.12.88	2016 / Chelsea
2	Billy **JONES**	(29) 24.03.87	2014 / West Brom
27	Jan **KIRCHHOFF** (Ger)	(26) 01.10.90	2015 / Bayern Munich (Ger)
23	Lamine **KONE** (IvC)	(27) 01.02.89	2016 / Lorient (Fra)
22	Donald **LOVE** (Sco)	(21) 02.12.94	2016 / Manchester Utd
21	Javier **MANQUILLO** (Spa)	(22) 05.05.94	2016 / At Madrid (Spa) loan
19	Paddy **McNAIR** (NI)	(21) 27.04.95	2016 / Manchester Utd
45	Josh **ROBSON**	(18) 03.02.98	
34	Thomas **ROBSON**	(21) 11.09.95	2012 / Darlington
16	John **O'SHEA** (RoI)	(35) 30.04.81	2011 / Manchester United
3	Patrick **VAN ARNHOLT** (Hol)	(26) 29.08.90	2014 / Chelsea
29	Joel **ASORO** (Swe)	(17) 27.04.99	2016 / IF Bromma (Swe)
6	Lee **CATTERMOLE**	(28) 21.03.88	2009 / Wigan Athletic
46	Lynden **GOOCH** (USA)	(20) 24.12.95	2012 / Santa Cruz B (USA)
39	George **HONEYMAN**	(22) 08.09.94	
44	Adnan **JANUZAJ** (Blg)	(21) 05.02.95	2016 / Man Utd
10	Wahbi **KHAZRI** (Tun)	(25) 08.02.91	2016 / Bordeaux (Fra)
7	Sebastian **LARSSON** (Swe)	(31) 06.06.85	2011 / Birmingham City
17	Didier **N'DONG** (Gab)	(22) 17.06.94	2016 / Lorient (Fra)
20	Steven **PIENAAR** (SAf)	(34) 17.03.82	2016 / Everton
25	Ethan **ROBSON**	(19) 25.10.96	
8	Jack **RODWELL**	(25) 11.03.91	2014 / Manchester City
28	Victor **ANICHEBE** (Nga)	(28) 23.04.88	2016 / West Brom
9	Fabio **BORINI** (Ita)	(25) 29.03.91	2015 / Liverpool
18	Jermain **DEFOE**	(33) 07.10.82	2015 / Toronto (USA)
14	Duncan **WATMORE**	(22) 08.03.94	2013 / Altrincham
●	**David MOYES** (Sco)	(53) 25.04.63	2016 / Real Sociedad (Spa)

STATS

League wins: 6

Cup wins: 2

Title odds: **1,000-1**

SWANSEA CITY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
19	Mark **BIRIGHITTI** (Aus)	(25) 07.04.91	2016 / Newcastle J (Aus)
1	Lukasz **FABIANSKI** (Pol)	(31) 18.04.85	2013 / Arsenal
13	Kristoffer **NORDFELDT** (Swe)	(27) 23.06.89	2015 / Heerenveen (Hol)
25	Gerhard **TREMMEL** (Ger)	(37) 16.11.78	2011/ RB Salzburg (Aut)
2	Jordi **AMAT** (Spa)	(24) 21.03.92	2013 / Espanyol (Spa)
33	Federico **FERNANDEZ** (Arg)	(27) 21.02.89	2014 / Napoli (Ita)
35	Stephen **KINGSLEY** (Sco)	(22) 23.07.94	2014 / Falkirk (Sco)
6	Alfie **MAWSON**	(22) 19.01.94	2016 / Barnsley
26	Kyle **NAUGHTON**	(27) 11.11.88	2015 / Tottenham Hotspur
22	Angel **RANGEL** (Spa)	(34) 28.01.82	2007 / Terrassa (Spa)
3	Neil **TAYLOR** (Wal)	(27) 07.02.89	2010 / Wrexham
5	Mike **VAN DER HOORN** (Hol)	(23) 15.10.92	2016 / Ajax (Hol)
7	Leon **BRITTON**	(34) 10.09.82	2011 / Sheffield United
24	Jack **CORK**	(27) 25.06.89	2015 / Southampton
12	Nathan **DYER**	(28) 29.11.87	2009 / Southampton
8	Leroy **FER** (Hol)	(26) 05.01.90	2016 / QPR
56	Jay **FULTON** (Sco)	(22) 01.04.94	2014 / Falkirk (Sco)
4	**KI** Sung-yueng (SKo)	(27) 24.01.89	2012 / Celtic (Sco)
20	Jefferson **MONTERO** (Ecu)	(27) 01.09.89	2014 / Morelia (Mex)
15	Wayne **ROUTLEDGE**	(31) 07.01.85	2011 / Newcastle United
23	Gylfi **SIGURDSSON** (Ice)	(27) 08.09.89	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
17	Modou **BARROW** (Gam)	(23) 13.10.92	2014 / Ostersund (Swe)
10	Borja **BASTON** (Spa)	(24) 25.08.92	2016 / At Madrid (Spa)
9	Fernando **LLORENTE** (Spa)	(31) 26.02.85	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
62	Oliver **McBURNIE**	(20) 04.06.96	2015 / Bradford City
●	**Francesco GUIDOLIN** (Ita)	(61) 03.10.55	2016 / Udinese (Ita)

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 0

Title odds: **1,000-1**

STATS

League wins: 2

Cup wins: 8

Title odds: **14-1**

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Hugo **LLORIS** (Fra)	(29) 26.12.86	2012 / Lyon (Fra)
30	Pau **LOPEZ** (Spa)	(21) 13.12.94	2016 / Espanyol (Spa)
13	Michel **VORM** (Hol)	(32) 20.10.83	2014 / Swansea City
4	Toby **ADERWEIRELD** (Blg)	(27) 02.03.89	2015 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
33	Ben **DAVIES** (Wal)	(23) 24.04.93	2014 / Swansea City
3	Danny **ROSE**	(26) 02.07.90	2007 / Leeds United
16	Keiran **TRIPPIER**	(26) 19.09.90	2015 / Burnley
5	Jan **VERTONGHEN** (Blg)	(29) 24.04.87	2012 / Ajax (Hol)
2	Kyle **WALKER**	(26) 28.05.90	2009 / Sheffield United
27	Kevin **WIMMER** (Aut)	(23) 15.11.92	2015 / Cologne (Ger)
20	Dele **ALLI**	(20) 11.04.96	2015 / MK Dons
28	Tom **CARROLL**	(24) 28.05.92	
19	Mousa **DEMBELE** (Blg)	(29) 16.07.87	2012 / Fulham
15	Eric **DIER**	(22) 15.01.94	2014 / Sporting (Por)
23	Christian **ERIKSEN** (Den)	(24) 14.02.92	2013 / Ajax (Hol)
11	Erik **LAMELA** (Arg)	(24) 04.03.92	2013 / Roma (Ita)
14	Georges-Kevin **N'KOUDOU** (Fra)	(21) 13.02.95	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
25	Josh **ONOMAH**	(19) 27.04.97	
17	Moussa **SISSOKO** (Fra)	(27) 16.08.89	2016 / Newcastle United
12	Victor **WANYAMA** (Ken)	(25) 25.06.91	2016 / Southampton
29	Harry **WINKS**	(20) 02.02.96	
9	Vincent **JANSSEN** (Hol)	(22) 15.06.94	2016 / AZ (Hol)
10	Harry **KANE**	(23) 28.07.93	
7	**SON** Heung-min (SKo)	(24) 08.07.92	2015 / Leverkusen (Ger)
●	**Mauricio POCHETTINO** (Arg)	(44) 02.03.72	2014 / Southampton

Looking up...Juan Zuniga of Watford

STATS

League wins: 0

Cup wins: 0

Title odds: **1,000-1**

WATFORD

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
34	Giedrius **ARLAUSKIS** (Lit)	(28) 01.12.87	2015 / Steaua (Rom)
13	Rene **GILMARTIN** (RoI)	(29) 31.05.87	2014 / St Patrick's Ath (RoI)
1	Heurelho **GOMES** (Bra)	(35) 15.02.81	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
30	Costel **PANTILIMON** (Rom)	(29) 01.02.87	2016 / Sunderland
3	Miguel **BRITOS** (Uru)	(31) 17.07.85	2015 / Napoli (Ita)
15	Craig **CATHCART** (NI)	(27) 06.02.89	2014 / Blackpool
26	Brice **DJA DJEDJE** (IvC)	(25) 23.12.90	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
25	Jose **HOLEBAS** (Gre)	(32) 27.06.84	2015 / Roma (Ita)
22	Daryl **JANMAAT** (Hol)	(27) 22.07.89	2016 / Newcastle United
27	Christian **KABASELE** (Blg)	(25) 24.02.91	2016 / Genk (Blg)
4	Younes **KABOUL** (Fra)	(30) 04.01.86	2016 / Sunderland
6	Adrian **MARIAPPA** (Jam)	(30) 03.10.86	2016 / Crystal Palace
14	Juan **CARLOS PAREDES** (Ecu)	(29) 08.07.87	2014 / Granada (Spa)
5	Sebastian **PRODL** (Aut)	(29) 21.06.87	2015 / W Bremen (Ger)
18	Juan **ZUNIGA** (Col)	(30) 14.12.85	2016 / Napoli (Ita) loan
7	**NORDIN** Amrabat (Mor)	(29) 31.03.87	2016 / Malaga (Spa)
11	Valon **BEHRAMI** (Swi)	(31) 19.04.85	2015 / Hamburg (Ger)
29	**ETIENNE** Capoue (Fra)	(28) 11.07.88	2015 / Tottenham
16	Abdoulaye **DOUCOURE** (Fra)	(23) 01.01.93	2016 / Rennes (Fra)
17	**ADLENE** Guedioura (Alg)	(30) 12.11.85	2015 / Crystal Palace
12	**KENEDY** (Bra)	(20) 08.02.96	2016 / Chelsea loan
37	Roberto **PEREYRA** (Arg)	(25) 07.01.91	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
23	Ben **WATSON**	(31) 09.07.85	2015 / Wigan Athletic
9	Troy **DEENEY**	(28) 29.06.88	2010 / Walsall
24	Odion **IGHALO** (Nga)	(27) 16.06.89	2014 / Udinese (Ita)
33	Stefano **OKAKA** (Ita)	(27) 09.08.89	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
19	Jerome **SINCLAIR**	(20) 20.09.96	2016 / Liverpool
10	Isaac **SUCCESS** (Nga)	(20) 07.01.96	2016 / Granada (Spa)
●	**Walter MAZZARRI** (Ita)	(55) 01.10.61	2016 / Internazionale (Ita)

Blocked...West Brom's Jonny Evans denies Michail Antonio of West Ham

WEST BROMWICH ALBION

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Ben **FOSTER**	(33) 03.04.83	2012 / Birmingham City
13	Boaz **MYHILL** (Wal)	(33) 09.11.82	2010 / Hull City
38	Jack **ROSE**	(21) 31.01.95	
25	Craig **DAWSON**	(26) 06.05.90	2010 / Rochdale
6	Jonny **EVANS** (NI)	(28) 03.01.88	2015 / Manchester United
20	Brendan **GALLOWAY**	(20) 17.03.96	2016 / Everton loan
23	Gareth **McAULEY** (NI)	(36) 05.12.79	2011 / Ipswich Town
2	Allan **NYOM** (Cam)	(28) 10.05.88	2016 / Watford
3	Jonas **OLSSON** (Swe)	(33) 10.03.83	2008 / NEC (Hol)
49	Kane **WILSON**	(16) 11.03.00	
11	Chris **BRUNT** (NI)	(31) 14.12.84	2007 / Sheffield Wednesday
22	Nacer **CHADLI** (Blg)	(27) 02.08.89	2016 / Tottenham H
47	Sam **FIELD**	(18) 08.05.98	
24	Darren **FLETCHER** (Sco)	(32) 01.02.84	2015 / Manchester United
8	Craig **GARDNER**	(29) 25.11.86	2014 / Sunderland
14	James **McCLEAN** (RoI)	(27) 22.04.89	2015 / Wigan Athletic
19	Callum **McMANAMAN**	(25) 25.04.91	2015 / Wigan Ath;etic
7	James **MORRISON** (Sco)	(30) 25.05.86	2007 / Middlesbrough
10	Matt **PHILLIPS** (Sco)	(25) 13.03.91	2016 / QPR
4	Hal **ROBSON-KANU** (Wal)	(27) 21.05.89	2016 / Reading
5	Claudio **YACOB** (Arg)	(29) 18.07.87	2012 / Racing (Arg)
18	Saido **BERAHINO**	(23) 04.08.93	
45	Jonathan **LEKO**	(17) 24.04.99	
9	Salomon **RONDON** (Ven)	(26) 16.09.89	2015 / Zenit (Rus)

● **Tony PULIS** (Wal) (58) 16.01.58 2015 / Crystal Palace

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
1	5

Title odds **1,000-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	3

Title odds **250-1**

WEST HAM UNITED

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	**ADRIAN** (Spa)	(29) 03.01.87	2013 / Real Betis (Spa)
1	Darren **RANDOLPH** (RoI)	(29) 12.05.87	2015 / Birmingham City
34	Raphael **SPIEGEL** (Swi)	(23) 19.12.92	2012 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
5	Alvaro **ARBELOA** (Spa)	(33) 17.01.83	2016 / Real Madrid (Spa)
22	Sam **BYRAM**	(23) 16.09.93	2016 / Leeds United
19	James **COLLINS** (Wal)	(33) 23.08.83	2012 / Aston Villa
3	Aaron **CRESSWELL**	(26) 05.12.89	2014 / Ipswich Town
26	Arthur **MASUAKU** (Fra)	(22) 07.11.93	2016 / Olympiakos (Gre)
21	Angelo **OGBONNA** (Ita)	(28) 23.05.88	2015 / Juventus (Ita)
35	Reece **OXFORD**	(17) 16.12.98	
2	Winston **REID** (NZ)	(28) 03.07.88	2010 / Midtjylland (Den)
30	Michail **ANTONIO**	(26) 28.03.90	2015 / Nottngham Forest
7	Sofiane **FEGHOULI** (Alg)	(26) 26.12.89	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
31	Edimilson **FERNANDES** (Swi)	(20) 15.04.96	2016 / Sion (Swi)
8	Cheikhou **KOUYATE** (Sen)	(26) 21.12.89	2014 / Anderlecht (Blg)
10	Manuel **LANZINI** (Arg)	(23) 15.02.93	2016 / Al Jazira (UAE)
16	Mark **NOBLE**	(29) 08.05.87	
4	Havard **NORDTVEIT** (Nor)	(26) 21.06.90	2016 / B M'gladbach (Ger)
14	Pedro **OBIANG** (Spa)	(24) 27.03.92	2015 / Sampdoria (Ita)
27	Dmitri **PAYET** (Fra)	(29) 29.03.87	2015 / Marseille (Fra)
17	Gokhan **TORE** (Tur)	(24) 20.01.92	2016 / Besiktas (Tur) loan
20	Andre **AYEW** (Gha)	(26) 17.12.89	2016 / Swansea City
9	Andy **CARROLL**	(27) 06.01.89	2013 / Liverpool
28	Jonathan **CALLERI** (Arg)	(22) 23.09.93	2016 / Maldonado (Uru) loan
24	Ashley **FLETCHER**	(21) 02.10.95	2016 / Manchester Utd
15	Diafro **SAKHO** (Sen)	(26) 24.12.89	2014 / Metz (Fra)
11	Simone **ZAZA** (Ita)	(25) 25.06.91	2016 / Juventus (Ita) loan

● **Slaven BILIC** (Cro) (48) 11.09.68 2015 / Besiktas (Tur)

Goalkeepers · Defenders · Midfielders · Forwards · Coach · New signings

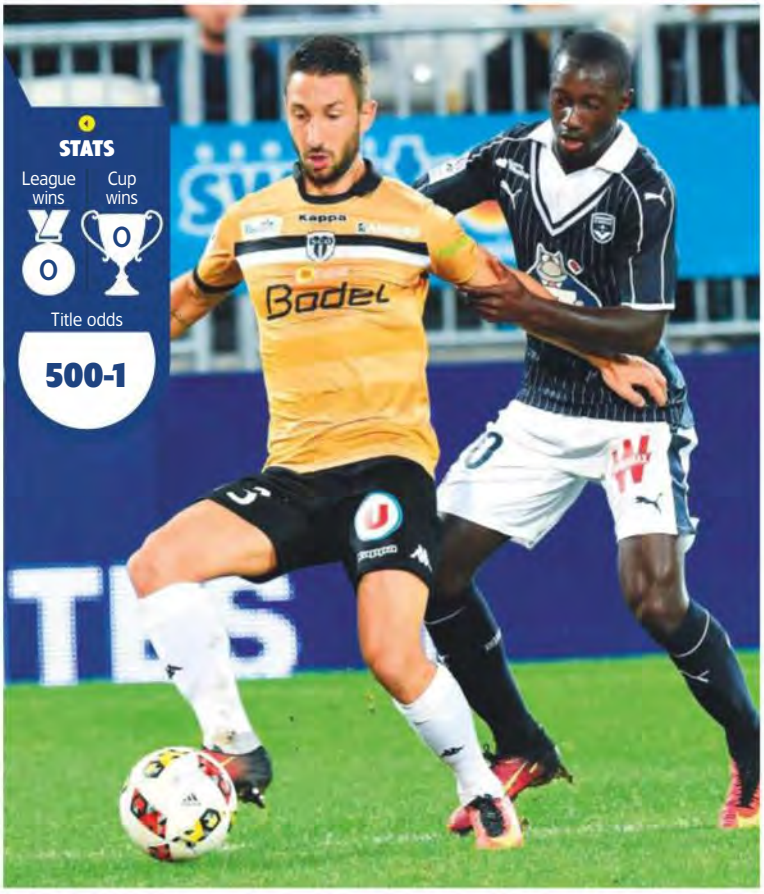
SQUAD KEY

ANGERS

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeeper	30 Alexandre **LETELLIER**	(25) 11.12.90	2010 / Paris Saint-Germain
Goalkeeper	40 Anthony **MANDREA**	(19) 25.12.86	2016 / Nice
Goalkeeper	16 Mathieu **MICHEL**	(25) 04.09.91	2016 / Nimes
Goalkeeper	1 Denis **PETRIC** (Ser)	(28) 24.05.88	2016 / Troyes
Defender	3 Yoann **ANDREU**	(27) 03.05.89	2015 / GFC Ajaccio
Defender	6 Gregory **BOURILLON**	(32) 01.07.84	2016 / Reims
Defender	25 Aissa **LAIDOUNI**	(19) 13.12.96	
Defender	29 Vincent **MANCEAU**	(27) 10.07.89	
Defender	21 Pablo **MARTINEZ**	(27) 21.02.89	2016 / GFC Ajaccio
Defender	4 Mateo **PAVLOVIC** (Cro)	(26) 09.06.90	2016 / W Bremen (Ger)
Defender	24 Romain **THOMAS**	(28) 12.06.88	2013 / Carquefou
Defender	8 Ismael **TRAORE** (IvC)	(30) 18.08.86	2015 / Brest
Midfielder	15 Pierrick **CAPELLE**	(29) 15.04.87	2015 / Clermont
Midfielder	5 Thomas **MANGANI**	(29) 29.04.87	2015 / Chievo (Ita)
Midfielder	17 Cheick **NDOYE** (Sen)	(30) 29.03.86	2015 / Creteil
Midfielder	18 Baptiste **SANTAMARIA**	(21) 09.03.95	2016 / Tours
Midfielder	23 Jamel **SAIHI** (Mor)	(29) 21.01.87	2016 / Montpellier
Midfielder	19 Mathias **SERIN**	(25) 01.08.91	2015 / Romorantin
Midfielder	26 Mehdi **TAHRAT** (Alg)	(26) 24.01.90	2016 / Paris FC
Forward	20 Flavien **TAIT**	(23) 02.02.93	2016 / Chateauroux
Forward	9 Famara **DIEDHIOU** (Sen)	(23) 15.12.92	2016 / Clermont
Forward	27 Ferebory **DORE** (Con)	(27) 21.01.89	2015 / Botev Plovdiv (Bul)
Forward	14 Billy **KETKEOPHOMPHONE**	(26) 24.03.90	2015 / Tours
Forward	11 Dickson **NWAKAEME** (Nga)	(30) 21.04.86	2016 / Pahang (Mly)
Forward	19 Nicolas **PEPE**	(21) 29.05.95	2013 / Poitiers
Forward	10 Gilles **SUNU**	(25) 30.03.91	2015 / Evian
Forward	7 Karl **TOKO EKAMBI** (Cam)	(24) 14.09.92	2016 / Sochaux
Forward	12 Yoane **WISSA**	(20) 03.09.96	2016 / Chateauroux
Coach	**Stephane MOULIN**	(49) 04.08.67	2011 / Angers B

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **500-1**

Tight...Bordeaux's Youssouf Sabaly closes down Yoann Andreu of Angers



BASTIA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeeper	30 Paul **CHARRUAU**	(23) 12.07.93	2016 / Valenciennes
Goalkeeper	16 Jean-Louis **LECA**	(31) 21.09.85	2013 / Valenciennes
Goalkeeper	1 Thomas **VINCENSINI**	(23) 12.09.93	
Defender	20 Pierre **BENGTSSON**	(28) 12.04.88	2016 / Mainz (Ger)
Defender	29 Gilles **CIONI**	(32) 14.06.84	2010 / Paris FC
Defender	23 Alexander **DJIKU**	(22) 09.08.94	
Defender	4 Abdelhamid **EL KAOUTARI** (Mor)	(26) 17.03.90	2016 / Palermo (Ita)
Defender	28 Florian **MARANGE**	(30) 03.03.86	2014 / Sochaux
Defender	17 Mathieu **PEYBERNES**	(25) 21.10.90	2014 / Sochaux
Defender	5 Sebastien **SQUILLACI**	(36) 11.08.80	2013 / Arsenal (Eng)
Defender	21 Geoffrey **ACHEAMPONG** (Gha)	(19) 28.01.97	2016 / Santa Barbara (USA)
Midfielder	3 Julien **BENHAIM**	(19) 25.10.96	
Midfielder	22 Farid **BOULAYA**	(23) 25.02.93	2016 / Clermont
Midfielder	7 Jerson **CABRAL** (Hol)	(25) 03.01.91	2016 / Twente (Hol)
Midfielder	18 Yannick **CAHUZAC**	(31) 18.01.85	2002 / GFC Ajaccio
Midfielder	25 Lassana **COULIBALY** (Mli)	(20) 10.04.96	
Midfielder	8 Gael **DANIC**	(34) 19.11.81	2014 / Lyon
Midfielder	10 Lyes **HOURI**	(20) 19.01.96	2015 / Valenciennes
Midfielder	12 Abdoulaye **KEITA** (Mli)	(22) 05.01.94	2012 / EF Bastia
Midfielder	14 Mehdi **MOSTEFA** (Alg)	(33) 30.08.83	2015 / Lorient
Forward	11 Lenny **NANGIS**	(22) 24.03.94	2016 / Lille
Forward	19 Axel **NGANDO**	(23) 13.07.93	2015 / Rennes
Forward	6 Allan **SAINT-MAXIMIN**	(19) 12.03.97	2016 / Monaco
Forward	13 Thievy **BIFOUMA** (Con)	(24) 13.05.92	2016 / Espanyol (Spa)
Forward	27 Enzo **CRIVELLI**	(21) 06.02.95	2016 / Bordeaux
Forward	2 Sadio **DIALLO** (Gui)	(25) 28.12.90	2015 / Rennes
Forward	9 Florian **RASPENTINO**	(27) 06.06.89	2015 / Caen
Coach	**Francois CICCOLINI**	(54) 03.06.62	2016 / JS Kabylie (Alg)

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 1
Title odds: **250-1**

STATS
League wins: 6
Cup wins: 4
Title odds: **66-1**

BORDEAUX

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeeper	1 Paul **BERNARDONI**	(19) 18.04.97	2016 / Troyes
Goalkeeper	16 Cedric **CARRASSO**	(34) 30.12.81	2009 / Toulouse
Goalkeeper	30 Jerome **PRIOR**	(21) 08.08.95	
Defender	3 Diego **CONTENTO** (Ger)	(26) 01.05.90	2014 / Bayern Munich (Ger)
Defender	2 Milan **GAJIC** (Ser)	(20) 28.01.96	2015 / OFK Belgrade (Ser)
Defender	26 Frederic **GUILBERT**	(21) 24.12.94	
Defender	6 Igor **LEWCZUK** (Pol)	(31) 30.05.85	2016 / Legia (Pol)
Defender	4 **PABLO** (Bra)	(25) 21.06.91	2015 / Ponte Preta (Bra)
Defender	5 Nicolas **PALLOIS**	(29) 19.09.87	2014 / Niort
Defender	21 Theo **PELLENARD**	(22) 04.03.94	2016 / Paris FC
Defender	29 Maxime **POUNDJE**	(24) 16.08.92	
Defender	20 Youssouf **SABALY**	(23) 05.03.93	2016 / PSG loan
Defender	27 Gregory **SERTIC**	(27) 05.08.89	2011 / Lens
Midfielder	8 Mauro **ARAMBARRI** (Uru)	(21) 30.09.95	2016 / Defensor (Uru)
Midfielder	13 Younes **KAABOUNI**	(21) 23.05.95	2016 / Red Star
Midfielder	19 Nicolas **MAURICE-BELAY**	(31) 19.04.85	2011 / Sochaux
Midfielder	17 Adam **OUNAS**	(19) 11.11.96	
Midfielder	18 Jaroslav **PLASIL** (CzR)	(34) 05.01.82	2014 / Osasuna (Spa)
Midfielder	28 Kevin **SONI** (Cam)	(18) 17.04.98	
Midfielder	14 Jeremy **TOULALAN**	(33) 10.09.83	2016 / Monaco
Midfielder	15 Abdou **TRAORE** (Mli)	(28) 17.01.88	
Midfielder	23 Valentin **VADA** (Arg)	(20) 06.03.96	
Forward	11 Francois **KAMANO** (Gui)	(20) 01.05.96	2016 / Bastia
Forward	12 Isaac **KIESE** Thelin (Swe)	(24) 24.06.92	2015 / Malmo (Swe)
Forward	24 Gaetan **LABORDE**	(22) 03.05.94	2015 / Brest
Forward	25 **MALCOM** (Bra)	(19) 26.02.97	2016 / Corinthians (Bra)
Forward	7 Jeremy **MENEZ**	(29) 07.05.87	2016 / Milan (Ita)
Forward	9 Diego **ROLAN** (Uru)	(23) 24.03.93	2013 / Defensor (Uru)
Forward	10 Thomas **TOURE**	(22) 27.12.93	2010 / Cannes
Coach	**Jocelyn GOURVENNEC**	(44) 22.03.72	2016 / Guingamp

CAEN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
16	Louis **DESCHATEAUX**	(19) 16.04.97	
40	Matthieu **DREYER**	(27) 20.03.89	2016 / Troyes
30	Paul **REULET**	(22) 14.01.94	
1	Remy **VERCOUTRE**	(36) 26.06.80	2016 / Lyon
21	Chaker **ALHADHUR** (Com)	(24) 04.12.91	2015 / Nantes
13	Syam **BEN YOUSSEF** (Tun)	(27) 31.03.89	2015 / Astra Giurgiu (Rom)
28	Damien **DA SILVA**	(28) 17.05.88	2014 / Clermont
23	Mouhamadou **DABO**	(29) 28.11.86	2016 / Troyes
29	Romain **GENEVOIS** (Hai)	(28) 28.10.87	2016 / Nice
15	Emmanuel **IMOROU** (Ben)	(28) 16.09.88	2014 / Clermont
5	Alaeddine **YAHIA** (Tun)	(35) 26.08.81	2014 / Lens
18	Jordan **ADEOTI** (Ben)	(27) 12.03.89	2014 / Laval
11	Vincent **BESSAT**	(30) 08.11.85	2015 / Nantes
6	Jonathan **DELAPLACE**	(30) 20.03.86	2015 / Lille
4	Ismael **DIOMANDE** (IvC)	(24) 28.08.92	2016 / Saint-Etienne
25	Julien **FERET**	(34) 05.07.82	2014 / Rennes
19	Jordan **LEBORGNE**	(21) 29.09.95	2015 / Montpellier
17	Jean-Victor **MAKENGO**	(18) 12.06.98	2014 / none
10	Steed **MALBRANQUE**	(36) 06.01.80	2016 / Lyon
8	Jordan **N'KOLOLO** (DRC)	(23) 09.11.92	2015 / Clermont
2	Nicolas **SEUBE**	(37) 11.08.79	2001 / Toulouse
27	Valentin **VOISIN**	(20) 19.06.96	
20	Herve **BAZILE** (Hai)	(26) 18.03.90	2014 / Le Poire-sur-Vie
7	Yann **KARAMOH**	(18) 08.07.98	
14	Jeff **LOUIS** (Hai)	(24) 08.08.92	2015 / Standard Liege (Blg)
12	Ronny **RODELIN**	(26) 18.11.89	2016 / Lille
22	Pape **SANE** (Sen)	(24) 30.12.91	2016 / Bourg-Peronnas
26	Ivan **SANTINI** (Cro)	(27) 21.05.89	2016 / Standard Liege (Blg)
●	**Patrice GARANDE**	(55) 27.11.60	2012 / Caen assistant

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **250-1**

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **1,000-1**

DIJON

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
16	Bobby **ALLAIN**	(24) 28.11.91	2016 / Red Star
1	Benjamin **LEROY**	(27) 07.04.89	2016 / Evian
30	Baptiste **REYNET**	(25) 28.10.90	2014 / Lorient
21	Yunis **ABDELHAMID** (Mor)	(29) 28.09.87	2016 / Valenciennes
5	Quentin **BERNARD**	(27) 07.07.89	2015 / Niort
25	Arnold **BOUKA-MOUTOU** (Con)	(27) 28.11.88	2016 / Angers
26	Fouad **CHAFIK** (Mor)	(29) 16.10.86	2016 / Laval
4	Jordan **LOTIES**	(32) 05.08.84	2016 / Osasuna (Spa)
19	Valentin **ROSIER**	(20) 19.08.96	2016 / Rodez
23	Vincent **RUFLI** (Swi)	(28) 22.01.88	2016 / Sion (Swi)
27	Cedric **VARRAULT**	(36) 30.01.80	2011 / Panionios (Gre)
17	Mehdi **ABEID** (Alg)	(24) 06.08.92	2016 / Panathinaikos (Gre)
20	Romain **AMALFITANO**	(27) 27.08.89	2013 / Newcastle U (Eng)
29	Dylan **BAHAMBOULA** (DRC)	(21) 22.05.95	2016 / Monaco
15	Florent **BALMONT**	(36) 02.02.80	2016 / Lille
10	Jeremie **BELA**	(23) 08.04.93	2014 / Lens
3	Anthony **BELMONTE**	(20) 16.10.95	2015 / Istres
22	Johan **GASTIEN**	(28) 25.01.88	2013 / Niort
8	Pierre **LEES-MELOU**	(23) 25.05.93	2015 / Lege-Cap-Ferret
14	Jordan **MARIE**	(25) 29.09.91	
13	Marvin **MARTIN**	(28) 10.06.88	2016 / Lille
18	Frederic **SAMMARITANO**	(30) 23.03.86	2015 / Auxerre
6	Guillaume **SARRABAYROUSE**	(19) 14.06.97	2016 / Colomiers
9	Lois **DIONY**	(23) 20.12.92	2014 / Mont-de-Marsan
7	Yohann **RIVIERE**	(32) 18.08.84	2014 / Le Havre
11	Julio **TAVARES** (CV)	(27) 19.11.88	2012 / Bourg-Peronnas
●	**Olivier DALL'OGLIO**	(52) 16.05.64	2012 / Ales

GUINGAMP

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
16	Theo **GUIVARCH**	(20) 17.11.95	2015 / Lorient
1	Karl-Johan **JOHNSSON** (Swe)	(26) 28.01.90	2016 / Randers (Den)
30	Romain **SALIN**	(32) 29.07.84	2016 / Maritimo (Por)
4	Benjamin **ANGOUA** (IvC)	(29) 28.11.86	2014 / Valenciennes
-	Jonathan **CORREIA**	(22) 13.02.94	2016 / Nice
2	Jordan **IKOKO** (DRC)	(22) 03.02.94	2016 / PSG
29	Christophe **KERBRAT**	(30) 02.08.86	2011 / Plabennec
25	Reynald **LEMAITRE**	(33) 28.06.83	2013 / Nancy
7	Dorian **LEVEQUE**	(26) 22.11.89	2010 / Boulogne
32	Alexis **MANE**	(19) 30.04.97	2015 / none
3	Fernando **MARCAL** (Bra)	(27) 19.02.89	2016 / Benfica (Por) loan
22	Jonathan **MARTINS** Pereira	(30) 30.01.86	2016 / Troyes
-	Victor **MOUANGUE**	(18) 08.03.98	
6	Baissama **SANKOH** (Gui)	(24) 20.03.92	
15	Jeremy **SORBON**	(33) 05.08.83	2013 / Caen
10	Nicolas **BENEZET**	(25) 24.02.91	2015 / Evian
21	Ludovic **BLAS**	(18) 31.12.97	
24	Marcus **COCO**	(20) 24.06.96	
12	Niil **DE PAUW** (Blg)	(26) 06.01.90	2015 / Lokeren (Blg)
8	Lucas **DEAUX**	(27) 26.12.88	2016 / Gent (Blg)
5	Moustapha **DIALLO** (Sen)	(30) 14.05.86	2009 / ASC Diaraf (Sen)
17	Etienne **DIDOT**	(33) 24.07.83	2016 / Toulouse
26	Thibault **GIRESSE**	(35) 25.05.81	2009 / Amiens
31	Jeremy **LIVOLANT**	(18) 09.01.98	
23	Jimmy **BRIAND**	(31) 02.05.85	2015 / Hanover (Ger)
14	Sullivan **MARTINET**	(20) 01.07.96	
9	Alexandre **MENDY**	(22) 20.03.94	2016 / Nice
11	Sloan **PRIVAT**	(27) 24.07.89	2015 / Gent (Blg)
19	Yannis **SALIBUR**	(25) 24.01.91	2015 / Clermont
●	**Antoine KOMBOUARE**	(52) 16.11.63	2016 / Lens

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 2
Title odds: **250-1**

Tough...Dijon's Yunis Abdelhamid takes out Eder of Lille

Incoming...Lucas Deaux joined Guingamp from Belgian side Gent

LILLE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	30 Jean **BUTEZ**	(21) 08.06.95	
Goalkeepers	1 Vincent **ENYEAMA** (Nga)	(34) 29.08.82	2013 / M Tel Aviv (Isr)
Goalkeepers	16 Mike **MAIGNAN**	(21) 03.07.95	2015 / Paris Saint-Germain
Defenders	– Carlens **ARCUS** (Hai)	(20) 28.06.96	2016 / Troyes
Defenders	25 Marko **BASA** (Mne)	(33) 29.12.82	2011 / Lok Moscow (Rus)
Defenders	18 Franck **BERIA**	(33) 23.05.83	2007 / Metz
Defenders	5 Renato **CIVELLI** (Arg)	(32) 14.10.83	2015 / Bursaspor (Tur)
Defenders	2 Sebastien **CORCHIA**	(25) 01.11.90	2014 / Sochaux
Defenders	3 Youssouf **KONE** (Mli)	(21) 05.07.95	
Defenders	– Hamza **MENDYL** (Mor)	(18) 21.10.97	
Defenders	15 Julian **PALMIERI**	(29) 17.12.86	2016 / Bastia
Defenders	23 Adama **SOUMAORO**	(24) 18.06.92	
Defenders	13 Stoppila **SUNZU** (Zam)	(27) 22.06.89	2016/Shanghai S (Chn)
Midfielders	6 Ibrahim **AMADOU** (Cam)	(23) 06.04.93	2015 / Nancy
Midfielders	10 Morgan **AMALFITANO**	(31) 20.03.85	2016 / West Ham (Eng)
Midfielders	11 Eric **BAUTHEAC**	(29) 24.08.87	2015 / Nice
Midfielders	33 Yves **BISSOUMA** (Mli)	(20) 30.08.96	2016 / Real Bamako (Mli)
Midfielders	17 Rony **LOPES** (Por)	(20) 28.12.95	2016 / Monaco
Midfielders	24 Rio **MAVUBA**	(32) 08.03.84	2008 / Villarreal (Spa)
Midfielders	8 Mounir **OBBADI** (Mor)	(33) 04.04.83	2015 / Monaco
Midfielders	4 Younousse **SANKHARE** (Sen)	(26) 10.09.89	2016 / Guingamp
Midfielders	27 Naim **SLITI** (Tun)	(24) 27.07.92	2016 / Red Star
Forwards	9 Yassine **BENZIA** (Alg)	(22) 08.09.94	2015 / Lyon
Forwards	12 Nicolas **DE PREVILLE**	(25) 08.01.91	2016 / Oostende (Blg)
Forwards	19 **EDER** (Por)	(28) 22.12.87	2016 / Swansea C (Eng)
Forwards	20 Ryan **MENDES** (CV)	(26) 08.01.90	2016 / Le Havre
Forwards	– Lebo **MOTHIBA** (SAf)	(20) 28.01.96	
Forwards	14 Junior **TALLO** (IvC)	(23) 21.12.92	2015 / Roma (Ita)
Forwards	– Martin **TERRIER**	(19) 04.03.97	
Coach	**Frederic ANTONETTI**	(55) 19.08.61	2015 / Rennes

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
3	6

Title odds: **66-1**

LORIENT

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	16 Paul **DELECROIX**	(27) 14.10.88	2016 / Niort
Goalkeepers	1 Anthony **LAMONGE**	(20) 04.04.96	
Goalkeepers	40 Benjamin **LECOMTE**	(25) 26.04.91	2014 / Niort
Defenders	6 Francois **BELLUGOU**	(29) 25.04.87	2014 / Nancy
Defenders	13 Michael **CIANI**	(32) 06.04.84	2016 / Espanyol (Spa)
Defenders	32 Ibrahima **CONTE** (Gui)	(23) 03.04.93	2015 / Satellite (Gui)
Defenders	24 Wesley **LAUTOA** (NwC)	(29) 25.08.87	2012 / Sedan
Defenders	25 Vincent **LE GOFF**	(26) 15.10.89	2014 / Istres
Defenders	3 Bradley **MAZIKOU**	(20) 02.06.96	
Defenders	20 Steven **MOREIRA**	(22) 13.08.94	2016 / Rennes
Defenders	29 Pape **PAYE**	(26) 31.05.90	2015 / Dijon
Defenders	2 Lindsay **ROSE**	(24) 08.02.92	2016 / Lyon
Defenders	11 Faiz **SELEMANI**	(22) 14.11.93	2016 / Niort
Defenders	5 Zargo **TOURE** (Sen)	(26) 11.11.89	2015 / Le Havre
Midfielders	28 Maxime **BARTHELME**	(28) 08.09.88	2009 / Racing Paris
Midfielders	26 Issam **BEN KHEMIS**	(20) 10.01.96	2014 / Ivry-sur-Seine
Midfielders	8 **CAFU** (Por)	(23) 26.02.93	2016 / Guimaraes (Por)
Midfielders	10 Sylvain **MARVEAUX**	(30) 15.04.86	2016 / Newcastle U (Eng)
Midfielders	17 Walid **MESLOUB** (Alg)	(31) 04.09.85	2014 / Le Havre
Midfielders	7 Arnold **MVUEMBA**	(31) 28.01.85	2016 / Lyon
Midfielders	19 Romain **PHILIPPOTEAUX**	(28) 02.03.88	2015 / Dijon
Forwards	27 Jimmy **CABOT**	(22) 18.04.94	2016 / Troyes
Forwards	23 Moryke **FOFANA** (IvC)	(24) 23.11.91	2015 / Lillestrom (Nor)
Forwards	22 Benjamin **JEANNOT**	(24) 22.01.92	2014 / Nancy
Forwards	34 Erwin **KOFFI**	(21) 10.01.95	2015 / Chateauroux
Forwards	21 Mohamed **MARA** (Gui)	(19) 12.12.96	
Forwards	12 Benjamin **MOUKANDJO** (Cam)	(28) 12.11.88	2015 / Reims
Forwards	9 Abdul Majeed **WARIS** (Gha)	(25) 19.09.91	2015 / Trabzonspor (Tur)
Coach	**Sylvain RIPOLL**	(45) 15.08.71	2014 / Lorient player

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	1

Title odds: **1,500-1**

Tussle...Lorient's Steven Moreira (left) gets to grips with Maciej Rybus of Lyon

LYON

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	30 Mathieu **GORGELIN**	(26) 05.08.90	
Goalkeepers	1 Anthony **LOPES** (Por)	(26) 01.10.90	
Goalkeepers	16 Lucas **MOCIO**	(22) 11.05.94	
Defenders	5 Mouctar **DIAKHABY**	(19) 19.12.96	2013 / USSA Vertou
Defenders	23 Jordy **GASPAR**	(19) 23.04.97	
Defenders	13 Christophe **JALLET**	(32) 31.10.83	2014 / PSG
Defenders	4 Emanuel **MAMMANA** (Arg)	(20) 10.02.96	2016 / River Plate (Arg)
Defenders	15 Jeremy **MOREL**	(32) 02.04.84	2015 / Marseille
Defenders	3 Nicolas **NKOULOU** (Cam)	(26) 27.03.90	2016 / Marseille
Defenders	20 Rafael **(BRA)**	(26) 09.07.90	2015 / Man United (Eng)
Defenders	31 Maciej **RYBUS** (Pol)	(27) 19.08.89	2016 / Terek Grozny (Rus)
Defenders	2 Mapou **YANGA-MBIWA**	(27) 15.05.89	2015 / Roma (Ita)
Defenders	25 Houssem **AOUAR**	(18) 30.06.98	
Defenders	14 Sergi **DARDER** (Spa)	(22) 22.12.93	2015 / Malaga (Spa)
Defenders	12 Jordan **FERRI**	(24) 12.03.92	
Defenders	21 Maxime **GONALONS**	(27) 10.03.89	
Defenders	7 Clement **GRENIER**	(25) 07.01.91	
Defenders	24 Olivier **KEMEN**	(20) 20.07.96	2015 / Newcastle U (Eng)
Defenders	8 Corentin **TOLISSO**	(22) 03.08.94	
Defenders	29 Lucas **TOUSART**	(19) 29.04.97	2015 / Valenciennes
Defenders	28 Mathieu **VALBUENA**	(32) 28.09.84	2015 / Dyn Moscow (Rus)
Defenders	6 Gueida **FOFANA**	(25) 16.05.91	2011 / Le Havre
Midfielders	27 Maxwel **CORNET**	(20) 27.09.96	2014 / Metz
Midfielders	45 Alan **DZABANA**	(19) 25.03.97	
Midfielders	18 Nabil **FEKIR**	(23) 18.07.93	2011 / Saint-Priest
Midfielders	11 Rachid **GHEZZAL** (Alg)	(24) 09.05.92	
Midfielders	26 Aldo **KALULU**	(20) 21.01.96	
Midfielders	10 Alexandre **LACAZETTE**	(25) 28.05.91	
Midfielders	19 Jean-Philippe **MATETA**	(19) 28.06.97	2016 / Chateauroux
Midfielders	22 Gaetan **PERRIN**	(20) 07.06.96	
Coach	**Bruno GENESIO**	(50) 01.09.66	2015 / Lyon assistant coach

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
7	5

Title odds: **10-1**

MARSEILLE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	40 Florian **ESCALES**	(20) 03.02.96	
●	16 Yohann **PELE**	(33) 04.11.82	2015 / Sochaux
●	1 Brice **SAMBA** (Con)	(22) 25.04.94	2016 / Le Havre
●	13 Gael **ANDONIAN** (Arm)	(21) 07.02.95	2016 / Dijon
●	12 Henri **BEDIMO** (Cam)	(32) 04.06.84	2016 / Lyon
●	3 **DORIA** (Bra)	(21) 08.11.94	2016 / Botafogo (Bra)
●	24 Rod **FANNI**	(34) 06.12.81	2016 / Al Arabi (Qat)
●	– Eirik **HAUGAN** (Nor)	(19) 27.08.97	2015 / Molde (Nor)
●	15 Tomas **HUBOCAN** (Slk)	(30) 17.09.85	2016 / Dyn Moscow (Rus)
●	4 Karim **REKIK** (Hol)	(21) 02.12.94	2015 / Manchester City (Eng)
●	6 **ROLANDO** (Por)	(31) 31.08.85	2015 / Porto (Por)
●	2 Hiroki **SAKAI** (Jap)	(26) 12.04.90	2016 / Hanover (Ger)
●	34 Alphousseyni **SANE**	(20) 17.01.96	
●	7 Remy **CABELLA**	(26) 08.03.90	2015 / Newcastle U (Eng)
●	5 Abou **DIABY**	(30) 11.05.86	2015 / Arsenal (Eng)
●	10 Lassana **DIARRA**	(31) 10.03.85	2015 / Lok Moscow (Rus)
●	20 Saif-Eddine **KHAOUI** (Tun)	(21) 27.04.95	2016 / Tours
●	27 Maxime **LOPEZ**	(18) 04.12.97	
●	23 Zinedine **MACHACH**	(20) 05.01.96	2016 / Toulouse loan
●	25 Bill **TUILOMA** (NZ)	(21) 27.02.95	2012 / Waitakere U (NZ)
●	19 William **VAINQUEUR**	(27) 19.11.88	2016 / Roma (Ita) loan
●	29 Andre-Frank **ZAMBO ANGUISSA** (Cam)	(20) 16.11.95	2015 / Reims
●	11 Romain **ALESSANDRINI**	(27) 03.04.89	2014 / Rennes
●	18 Bafetimbi **GOMIS**	(31) 06.08.85	2016 / Swansea (Eng) loan
●	22 Aaron **LEYA ISEKA** (Blg)	(18) 15.11.97	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg) loan
●	33 Samad **MOUHAMMADOU** (Cam)	(21) 13.01.95	
●	14 Clinton **NJIE** (Cam)	(23) 15.08.93	2016 /Tottenham (Eng) loan
●	32 Jeremie **PORSAN-CLEMENTE**	(18) 16.12.97	
●	28 Antoine **RABILLARD**	(20) 22.09.95	2014 / Beziers
●	17 Bouna **SARR** (Gui)	(24) 31.01.92	2015 / Metz
●	26 Florian **THAUVIN**	(23) 26.01.93	2016 / Newcastle (Eng) loan
●	**Franck PASSI**	(50) 28.03.66	2016 / Marseille assistant coach

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
9	10

Title odds

80-1

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	2

Title odds

250-1

METZ

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	1 Thomas **DIDILLON**	(20) 28.11.95	
●	15 Eiji **KAWASHIMA** (Jap)	(33) 20.03.83	2016 / Dundee Utd (Sco)
●	30 David **OBERHAUSER**	(26) 29.11.89	2014 / UTA Arad (Rom)
●	32 Benoit **ASSOU-EKOTTO** (Cam)	(32) 24.03.84	2016 / Saint-Etienne
●	25 Ivan **BALLIU** (Spa)	(24) 01.01.92	2015 / Arouca (Por)
●	33 Nicolas **BASIN**	(18) 22.07.98	
●	4 Milan **BISEVAC** (Ser)	(33) 31.08.83	2016 / Lazio (Ita)
●	6 Simon **FALETTE**	(24) 19.02.92	2016 / Brest
●	5 Guido **MILAN** (Arg)	(29) 03.07.87	2012 / Atlanta (Ita)
●	23 Chris **PHILIPPS** (Lux)	(22) 08.03.94	
●	3 Jonathan **RIVIEREZ**	(27) 18.05.89	2014 / Le Havre
●	21 Vahid **SELIMOVIC** (Lux)	(19) 03.04.97	
●	13 Franck **SIGNORINO** (Ita)	(35) 19.09.81	2016 / Reims
●	12 Matthieu **UDOL**	(20) 20.03.96	2016 / Seraing (Blg)
●	24 Renaud **COHADE**	(32) 29.09.84	2016 / Saint-Etienne
●	10 Cheick **DOUKOURE** (IvC)	(24) 11.09.92	2014 / Lorient
●	7 Gauther **HEIN**	(20) 07.08.96	
●	27 Janis **IKAUNIEKS** (Lat)	(21) 16.02.95	2014 / Liepaja (Lat)
●	8 Yann **JOUFFRE**	(32) 23.07.84	2016 / Lorient
●	20 Alexis **LARRIERE**	(19) 20.03.97	
●	22 Kevin **LEJEUNE**	(31) 22.01.85	2012 / Tours
●	14 Georges **MANDJECK** (Cam)	(27) 09.12.88	2015 / Erciyesspor (Tur)
●	19 Florent **MOLLET**	(24) 19.11.91	2016 / Creteil
●	28 Popoola **SALIU** (Nga)	(22) 07.08.94	2016 / Seraing (Blg)
●	26 Ismaila **SARR** (Sen)	(18) 25.02.98	2016 / Generation Foot (Sen)
●	2 Fadil **SIDO** (BuF)	(23) 13.04.93	2014 / Le Mans
●	29 Vincent **THILL** (Lux)	(16) 04.02.00	
●	17 Habib **DIALLO** (Sen)	(21) 15.06.95	
●	9 Mevlut **ERDING** (Tur)	(29) 25.02.87	2016 / Hanover (Ger)
●	11 Opa **NGUETTE**	(22) 08.07.94	2016 / Valenciennes
●	18 Thibaut **VION**	(22) 11.12.93	2016 / Seraing (Blg)
●	**Philippe HINSCHBERGER**	(56) 19.11.59	2015 / Creteil

OM guys...Florian Thauvin (left) is back permanetly at Marseille after being on loan last season, while Bafetimbi Gomis has been signed from Swansea

MONACO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers			
40	Loic **BADIASHIKE**	(18) 05.02.98	
16	Morgan **DE SANCTIS** (Ita)	(39) 26.03.77	2016 / Roma (Ita)
1	Danijel **SUBASIC** (Cro)	(31) 27.10.84	2012 / Hajduk Split (Cro)
30	Seydou **SY** (Sen)	(20) 12.12.95	
Defenders			
–	Mehdi **BENEDDINE**	(20) 26.02.96	
34	Abdou **DIALLO**	(20) 04.05.96	
2	**FABINHO** (Bra)	(22) 23.10.93	2015 / Rio Ave (Por)
25	Kamil **GLIK** (Pol)	(28) 03.02.88	2016 / Torino (Ita)
5	**JEMERSON** (Bra)	(24) 24.08.92	2016 / Atletico Mineiro (Bra)
23	Benjamin **MENDY**	(22) 17.07.94	2016 / Marseille
35	Kevin **N'DORAM**	(20) 22.01.96	
–	Pierre-Daniel **NGUINDA**	(20) 18.06.96	
24	Andrea **RAGGI** (Ita)	(32) 24.06.84	2012 / Bologna (Ita)
19	Djibril **SIDIBE**	(24) 29.07.92	2016 / Lille
38	Almamy **TOURE** (Mli)	(20) 28.04.96	
Midfielders			
31	Yhoan **ANDZOUANA** (Con)	(19) 13.12.96	
14	Tiemoue **BAKAYOKO**	(22) 17.08.94	2014 / Rennes
10	**BERNARDO SILVA** (Por)	(22) 10.08.94	2014 / Benfica (Por)
26	Gabriel **BOSCHILIA** (Bra)	(20) 05.03.96	2016 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
7	Nabil **DIRAR** (Mor)	(30) 25.02.86	2012 / Club Brugge (Blg)
27	Thomas **LEMAR**	(20) 12.11.95	2015 / Caen
8	Joao **MOUTINHO** (Por)	(30) 08.09.86	2013 / Porto (Por)
37	Abdou Aziz **THIAM**	(19) 15.01.97	
Forwards			
20	Adama **TRAORE** (Mli)	(21) 28.06.95	2015 / Lille
11	Guido **CARRILLO** (Arg)	(25) 25.05.91	2015 / Estudiantes (Arg)
9	Radamel **FALCAO** (Col)	(30) 10.02.86	2013 / At Madrid (Spa)
18	Valere **GERMAIN**	(26) 17.04.90	
28	Corentin **JEAN**	(21) 15.07.95	2016 / Troyes
29	Kylian **MBAPPE LOTTIN**	(17) 20.12.98	
Coach			
	Leonardo JARDIM (Por)	(42) 01.08.74	2014 / Olympiakos (Gre)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
7	5

Title odds **8-1**

Keeper...Nancy's Guy Ndy Assembe

Return...Radamel Falcao is back at Monaco after a disappointing loan spell

MONTPELLIER

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers			
16	Geoffrey **JOURDREN**	(30) 04.02.86	
30	Jonathan **LIGALI**	(25) 28.05.91	
1	Laurent **PIONNIER**	(34) 24.05.82	
Defenders			
3	Daniel **CONGRE**	(31) 05.04.85	2012 / Toulouse
25	Mathieu **DEPLAGNE**	(25) 01.10.91	
4	**HILTON** (Bra)	(39) 13.09.77	2011 / Marseille
2	Mamadou **N'DIAYE** (Sen)	(21) 28.05.95	
33	Morgan **POATY**	(19) 15.07.97	
21	William **REMY**	(25) 04.04.91	2015 / Dijon
24	Jerome **ROUSSILLON**	(23) 06.01.93	2015 / Sochaux
18	Nicolas **SAINT-RUF**	(23) 24.10.92	2016 / Lens
20	Anthony **VANDEN BORRE** (Blg)	(28) 24.10.87	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg) loan
Midfielders			
10	Ryad **BOUDEBOUZ** (Alg)	(26) 19.02.90	2015 / SC Bastia
17	Pierrick **FITO**	(20) 01.06.96	
7	Paul **LASNE**	(27) 16.01.89	2014 / AC Ajaccio
6	Joris **MARVEAUX**	(34) 15.08.82	2008 / Clermont
22	Killian **SANSON**	(19) 07.06.97	2016 / Evian
8	Morgan **SANSON**	(22) 18.08.94	2013 / Le Mans
13	Ellyes **SKHIRI** (Tun)	(21) 10.05.95	
5	Yacouba **SYLLA** (Mli)	(25) 29.11.90	2016 / Rennes loan
Forwards			
11	Kevin **BERIGAUD**	(28) 09.05.88	2014 / Evian
19	Souleymane **CAMARA** (Sen)	(33) 22.12.82	2007 / Nice
15	Steve **MOUNIE** (Ben)	(22) 29.09.94	
29	Casimir **NINGA** (Chd)	(23) 17.05.93	2015 / Mangasport (Gab)
28	Stephane **SESSEGNON** (Ben)	(32) 01.06.84	2016 / West Brom (Eng)
Coach			
	Frederic HANTZ	(50) 30.05.66	2016 / SC Bastia

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
1	2

Title odds **500-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	1

Title odds **1,000-1**

NANCY

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers			
1	Sergey **CHERNIK** (Bls)	(28) 20.07.88	2016 / BATE (Bls)
30	Alexandre **MENAY**	(20) 05.07.96	
16	Guy **NDY ASSEMBE** (Cam)	(30) 28.02.86	2014 / Nantes
Defenders			
3	Tobias **BADILA**	(23) 12.05.93	
24	Erick **CABACO** (Uru)	(21) 19.04.95	2016 / Nacional (Uru) loan
28	Julien **CETOUT**	(28) 02.01.88	2014 / Tours
20	Michael **CHRETIEN** (Mor)	(32) 10.07.84	2015 / Strasbourg
14	Joffrey **CUFFAUT**	(28) 15.03.88	2013 / Le Mans
4	Modou **DIAGNE** (Sen)	(22) 03.01.94	
2	Clement **LENGLET**	(21) 17.06.95	
17	Faitout **MAOUASSA**	(18) 06.07.98	
26	Vincent **MURATORI**	(29) 03.08.87	2012 / Monaco
Midfielders			
6	Youssef **AIT BENNASSER** (Mor)	(20) 07.07.96	2016 / Monaco loan
11	Karim **COULIBALY**	(23) 03.06.93	
5	Alou **DIARRA**	(35) 15.07.81	2016 / Charlton Ath (Eng)
18	Dialo **GUIDILEYE** (Mra)	(26) 30.12.89	2015 / AEL Limassol (Cyp)
8	Vincent **MARCHETTI**	(19) 04.07.97	2015 / AC Ajaccio
13	Serge **N'GUESSAN** (IvC)	(22) 31.07.94	2016 / AFAD Djekanou (IvC)
25	Benoit **PEDRETTI**	(35) 12.11.80	2015 / AC Ajaccio
19	Loic **PUYO**	(27) 18.12.88	2015 / Orleans
7	Antony **ROBIC**	(30) 05.03.86	2015 / Laval
Forwards			
9	Junior **DALE**	(31) 12.07.85	2014 / Arles-Avignon
10	Issiar **DIA** (Sen)	(29) 08.06.87	2016 / Al Kharaitiyat (Qat)
15	Youssouf **HADJI** (Mor)	(36) 25.02.80	2014 / Elazigspor (Tur)
23	Anthony **KOURA**	(23) 06.05.93	2016 / Nimes
22	Yann **MABELLA**	(20) 22.02.96	
12	Christophe **MANDANNE**	(31) 07.02.85	2016 / Al Fujairah (UAE)
Coach			
	Pablo CORREA (Uru)	(49) 14.03.67	2013 / Evian

NANTES

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
40	Quentin **BRAAT**	(19) 06.07.97	
30	Maxime **DUPE**	(23) 04.03.93	
16	Alexandre **OLLIERO**	(20) 15.02.96	
1	Remy **RIOU**	(29) 06.08.87	2012 / Toulouse
3	Diego **CARLOS** (Bra)	(23) 15.03.93	2016 / Estoril (Por)
26	Koffi **DJIDJI** (IvC)	(23) 30.11.92	
15	Leo **DUBOIS**	(22) 14.09.94	
25	Enock **KWATENG**	(19) 09.04.97	
6	Lucas **LIMA** (Bra)	(24) 10.10.91	2016 / Arouca (Por)
13	Wilfried **MOIMBE**	(27) 18.10.88	2015 / Brest
4	Oswaldo **VIZCARRONDO** (Ven)	(32) 31.05.84	2013 / Club America (Mex)
17	Anthony **WALONGWA** (DRC)	(22) 15.10.93	
24	Alexis **ALEGUE** (Cam)	(19) 23.12.96	
27	Guillaume **GILLET** (Blg)	(32) 09.03.84	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
14	Amine **HARIT**	(19) 18.06.97	
7	Jules **ILOKI**	(24) 14.01.92	
11	Alex **KACANIKLIC** (Swe)	(25) 13.08.91	2016 / Fulham (Eng)
28	Valentin **RONGIER**	(21) 07.12.94	
8	Adrien **THOMASSON**	(22) 10.12.93	2015 / Evian
23	Nikolaj **THOMSEN** (Den)	(23) 08.05.93	2016 / AaB (Den)
19	Abdoulaye **TOURE**	(22) 03.03.94	
2	Fernando **ARISTEGUIETA** (Ven)	(24) 09.04.92	2013 / Caracas (Ven)
10	Yacine **BAMMOU** (Mor)	(25) 11.09.91	2014 / Lucon
9	Emiliano **SALA** (Arg)	(25) 31.10.90	2015 / Bordeaux
18	Marius **STEPINSKI** (Pol)	(21) 12.05.95	2016 / Ruch Chorzow (Pol)

● **Rene GIRARD** (62) 04.04.54 2016 / Lille

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
8	3

Title odds **500-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
4	3

Title odds **33-1**

NICE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
40	Walter **BENITEZ** (Arg)	(23) 19.03.93	2016 / Quilmes (Arg)
30	Yoan **CARDINALE**	(22) 27.03.94	
1	Mouez **HASSAN**	(21) 05.03.95	
16	Simon **POUPLIN**	(31) 28.05.85	2014 / Sochaux
4	Paul **BAYSSE**	(28) 15.05.88	2015 / Saint-Etienne
24	Mathieu **BODMER**	(33) 22.11.82	2013 / Paris Saint-Germain
28	Olivier **BOSCAGLI**	(18) 18.11.97	
33	Patrick **BURNER**	(20) 11.04.96	
31	**DANTE** (Bra)	(32) 18.10.83	2016 / Wolfsburg (Ger)
29	Dalbert **HENRIQUE** (Bra)	(23) 08.09.93	2016 / Guimaraes (Por)
20	Maxime **LE MARCHAND**	(26) 10.11.89	2015 / Le Havre
3	Gautier **LLORIS**	(21) 18.07.95	
21	Ricardo **PEREIRA** (Por)	(22) 06.10.93	2016 / Porto (Por) loan
34	Malang **SARR**	(17) 23.01.99	
2	Arnaud **SOUQUET**	(24) 12.02.92	2016 / Dijon
5	Younes **BELHANDA** (Mor)	(26) 25.02.90	2016 / Dyn Kiev (Ukr) loan
25	Wylan **CYPRIEN**	(21) 28.01.95	2016 / Lens
13	Valentin **EYSSERIC**	(24) 25.03.92	2016 / Monaco
26	Vincent **KOZIELLO**	(20) 28.10.95	
8	Arnaud **LUSAMBA**	(19) 04.01.97	2016 / Nancy
–	Vincent **MARCEL**	(19) 09.04.97	2015 / Le Havre
12	Albert **RAFETRANIAINA**	(20) 09.09.96	
6	Jean Michael **SERI** (IvC)	(25) 19.07.91	2015 / Pacos Ferreira (Por)
7	Julien **VERCAUTEREN** (Blg)	(23) 12.01.93	2014 / Lierse (Blg)
18	Remi **WALTER**	(21) 26.04.95	2016 / Nancy
9	Mario **BALOTELLI** (Ita)	(26) 12.08.90	2016 / Liverpool (Eng)
11	Said **BENRAHMA** (Alg)	(21) 10.08.95	
23	Alexy **BOSETTI**	(23) 23.04.93	
27	Dorian **CADDY**	(21) 20.03.95	
19	Bryan **CONSTANT**	(22) 27.03.94	
22	Anastasios **DONIS** (Gre)	(20) 29.08.96	2016 / Juventus (Ita) loan
10	Mickael **LE BIHAN**	(26) 16.05.90	2015 / Le Havre
14	Alassane **PLEA**	(23) 10.03.93	2014 / Lyon

● **Lucien FAVRE** (Swi) (58) 02.11.57 2016 B M'gladbach (Ger)

Duel...Nantes' Nicolaj Thomsen (left) vies with Vincent Pajot of Saint-Etienne

Strike...PSG's Edinson Cavani (in red) takes on Toulouse

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
6	10

Title odds **1-4**

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
16	Alphonse **AREOLA**	(23) 27.02.93	
–	Remy **DESCAMPS**	(20) 25.06.96	
1	Kevin **TRAPP** (Ger)	(26) 08.07.90	2015 / E Frankfurt (Ger)
19	Serge **AURIER** (IvC)	(23) 24.12.92	2014 / Toulouse
34	Alec **GEORGEN**	(18) 17.09.98	
3	Presnel **KIMPEMBE**	(21) 13.08.95	
20	Layvin **KURZAWA**	(24) 04.09.92	2015 / Monaco
5	**MARQUINHOS** (Bra)	(22) 14.05.94	2013 / Roma (Ita)
17	**MAXWELL** (Bra)	(35) 27.08.81	2012 / Barcelona (Spa)
12	Thomas **MEUNIER** (Blg)	(25) 12.09.91	2016 / Club Brugge (Blg)
2	**THIAGO SILVA** (Bra)	(32) 22.09.84	2012 / Milan (Ita)
21	Hatem **BEN ARFA**	(29) 07.03.87	2016 / Nice
41	Lorenzo **CALLEGARI**	(18) 27.02.98	
11	Angel **DI MARIA** (Arg)	(28) 14.02.88	2015 / Man United (Eng)
36	Nanitamo **IKONE**	(18) 02.05.98	
4	Grzegorz **KRYCHOWIAK** (Pol)	(26) 29.01.90	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
7	**LUCAS MOURA** (Bra)	(24) 13.08.92	2012 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
13	Blaise **MATUIDI**	(29) 09.04.87	2011 / Saint-Etienne
8	Thiago **MOTTA** (Ita)	(34) 28.08.82	2012 / Internazionale (Ita)
24	Christopher **NKUNKU**	(18) 14.11.97	
10	Javier **PASTORE** (Arg)	(27) 20.06.89	2011 / Palermo (Ita)
25	Adrien **RABIOT**	(21) 03.04.95	
6	Marco **VERRATTI** (Ita)	(23) 05.11.92	2012 / Pescara (Ita)
29	Jean-Kevin **AUGUSTIN**	(19) 16.06.97	
9	Edinson **CAVANI** (Uru)	(29) 14.02.87	2013 / Napoli (Ita)
22	**JESE** (Spa)	(23) 26.02.93	2016 / Real Madrid (Spa)
35	Hervin **ONGENDA**	(21) 24.06.95	

● **Unai EMERY** (Spa) (44) 03.11.71 2016 / Sevilla (Spa)

Close attention...Rennes' Yoann Gourcuff is closed down by Remi Walter of Nice

STATS
League wins 0
Cup wins 2
Title odds 150-1

RENNES

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Benoit **COSTIL**	(29) 03.07.87	2011 / Sedan
30	Edvinas **GERTMONAS** (Lit)	(20) 01.06.96	2015 / Atlantas (Lit)
16	Paul **NARDI**	(22) 18.05.94	2016 / Monaco
22	Sylvain **ARMAND**	(36) 01.08.80	2013 / Paris Saint-Germain
24	Ludovic **BAAL**	(30) 24.05.86	2015 / Lens
15	Ramy **BENSEBAINI** (Alg)	(21) 16.04.95	2016 / Paradou AC (Alg)
19	Dimitri **CAVARE**	(21) 05.02.95	2015 / Lens
29	Romain **DANZE**	(30) 03.07.86	
25	Afonso **FIGUEIREDO** (Por)	(23) 06.01.93	2016 / Boavista (Por)
32	Joris **GNAGNON**	(19) 13.01.97	
17	Ermir **LENJANI** (Alb)	(27) 05.08.89	2015 / St Gallen (Swi)
5	Pedro **MENDES** (Por)	(26) 01.10.90	2015 / Parma (Ita)
4	**MEXER** (Moz)	(28) 08.09.88	2014 / Nacional (Por)
2	Mehdi **ZEFFANE** (Alg)	(24) 19.05.92	2015 / Lyon
21	Benjamin **ANDRE**	(26) 03.08.90	2014 / AC Ajaccio
-	Christian **BRULS** (Blg)	(28) 30.09.88	2014 / Gent (Blg)
8	Clement **CHANTOME**	(29) 11.09.87	2016 / Bordeaux
6	Gelson **FERNANDES** (Swi)	(30) 02.09.86	2014 / Freiburg (Ger)
28	Yoann **GOURCUFF**	(30) 11.07.86	2016 / Lyon
23	Adrien **HUNOU**	(22) 19.01.94	2016 / Rennes
-	Nicolas **JANVIER**	(18) 11.08.98	
26	Sanjin **PRCIC** (Bos)	(22) 20.11.93	2014 / Sochaux
27	Anthony **RIBELIN**	(20) 08.04.96	2016 / Montpellier
31	Adama **DIAKHABY**	(20) 05.07.96	2015 / Caen
9	Kermit **ERASMUS** (SAf)	(26) 08.07.90	2016 / Orlando Pirates (SAf)
10	Kamil **GROSICKI** (Pol)	(28) 08.06.88	2014 / Sivasspor (Tur)
-	Mahamadou **HABIBOU** (CAR)	(29) 16.04.87	2014 / Gent (Blg)
7	Paul-Georges **NTEP**	(24) 29.07.92	2014 / Auxerre
18	**PEDRO HENRIQUE** (Bra)	(26) 16.06.90	2014 / Zurich (Swi)
11	Wesley **SAID**	(21) 19.04.95	
13	Giovanni **SIO** (IvC)	(27) 31.03.89	2015 / Basle (Swi)
	Christian GOURCUFF	(61) 05.04.55	2016 / Algeria

SAINT-ETIENNE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Anthony **MAISONNIAL**	(18) 23.03.98	
30	Jessy **MOULIN**	(30) 13.01.86	
16	Stephane **RUFFIER**	(30) 27.09.86	2011 / Monaco
32	Benjamin **KARAMOKO**	(21) 17.05.95	
4	Leo **LACROIX** (Swi)	(24) 27.02.92	2016 / Sion (Swi)
25	Kevin **MALCUIT**	(25) 31.07.91	2015 / Niort
12	Cheikh **M'BENGUE** (Sen)	(28) 23.07.88	2016 / Rennes
24	Loic **PERRIN**	(31) 07.08.85	
33	Ronael **PIERRE-GABRIEL**	(18) 13.06.98	
19	Florentin **POGBA** (Gui)	(26) 19.08.90	2013 / Sedan
3	Pierre-Yves **POLOMAT**	(22) 27.12.93	
2	Kevin **THEOPHILE-CATHERINE**	(26) 28.10.89	2014 / Cardiff City (Eng)
6	Jeremy **CLEMENT**	(32) 26.08.84	2011 / Paris Saint-Germain
8	Benjamin **CORGNET**	(29) 06.04.87	2013 / Lorient
7	Bryan **DABO**	(24) 18.02.92	2016 / Montpellier
18	Fabien **LEMOINE**	(29) 16.03.87	2011 / Rennes
5	Vincent **PAJOT**	(26) 19.08.90	2015 / Rennes
11	Henri **SAIVET** (Sen)	(25) 26.10.90	2016 / Newcastle U (Eng) loan
17	Ole **SELNAES** (Nor)	(22) 07.07.94	2016 / Rosenborg (Nor)
14	Jordan **VERTOUT**	(23) 01.03.93	2016 / A Villa (Eng) loan
27	Robert **BERIC** (Sln)	(25) 17.06.91	2015 / Rapid Vienna (Aut)
21	Romain **HAMOUMA**	(29) 29.03.87	2012 / Caen
22	Kevin **MONNET-PAQUET**	(28) 19.08.88	2014 / Lorient
9	Nolan **ROUX**	(28) 01.03.88	2015 / Lille
23	Alexander **SODERLUND** (Nor)	(29) 03.08.87	2016 / Rosenborg (Nor)
10	Oussama **TANNANE** (Mor)	(22) 23.03.94	2016 / Heracles (Hol)
	Christophe GALTIER	(50) 23.08.66	2009 / Aris (Gre)

STATS
League wins 10
Cup wins 6
Title odds 100-1

STATS
League wins 0
Cup wins 1
Title odds 250-1

TOULOUSE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Mauro **GOICOECHEA** (Uru)	(28) 27.03.88	2015 / Arouca (Por)
40	Alban **LAFONT**	(17) 23.01.99	
16	Marc **VIDAL**	(25) 03.06.91	
-	Kelvin **AMIAN ADOU**	(18) 08.02.98	
7	Jean-Daniel **AKPA AKPRO** (IvC)	(23) 11.10.92	
5	Issa **DIOP**	(19) 09.01.97	
6	Christopher **JULLIEN**	(23) 22.03.93	2016 / Freiburg (Ger)
29	Francois **MOUBANDJE** (Swi)	(26) 21.06.90	2013 / Servette (Swi)
3	Yrondu **MUSAVU-KING** (Gab)	(24) 08.01.92	2016 / Udinese (Ita)
24	Pavle **NINKOV** (Ser)	(31) 20.04.85	2016 / Red Star (Ser)
12	Issiaga **SYLLA** (Gui)	(22) 01.01.94	2016 / Horoya AC (Gui)
22	Dusan **VESKOVAC** (Ser)	(30) 16.03.86	2016 / Young Boys (Swi)
20	Steeve **YAGO** (BuF)	(23) 16.12.92	
27	Alexis **BLIN**	(20) 16.09.96	2013 / Le Mans
23	Yann **BODIGER**	(21) 09.02.95	
-	Mathieu **CAFARO**	(19) 25.03.97	
4	Tongo **DOUMBIA** (Mli)	(27) 06.08.89	2014 / Wolves (Eng)
21	Jimmy **DURMAZ** (Swe)	(27) 22.03.89	2016 / Olympiakos (Gre)
25	Jessy **PI**	(23) 24.09.93	2016 / Monaco
17	Ibrahim **SANGARE** (IvC)	(18) 02.12.97	2016 / AS Denguele (IvC)
14	Francois **SIRIEIX**	(36) 07.10.80	2014 / Auxerre
19	**SOMALIA** (Bra)	(28) 28.09.88	2015 / Ferencvaros (Hun)
10	Oscar **TREJO** (Arg)	(28) 26.04.88	2013 / Sporting Gijon (Spa)
9	Martin **BRAITHWAITE** (Den)	(25) 05.06.91	2013 / Esbjerg (Den)
18	Odsonne **EDOUARD**	(18) 16.01.98	2016 / PSG loan
8	Dodi **LUKEBAKIO** (Blg)	(19) 24.09.97	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg) loan
11	Ola **TOIVONEN** (Swe)	(30) 03.07.86	2016 / Rennes
	Pascal DUPRAZ	(54) 19.09.62	2016 / Evian

6 of the best World Cup qualifying stars

Nick Bidwell highlights half a dozen of the most impressive performers so far on the road to Russia 2018

1 Ousmane DEMBELE

FRANCE

It is quite incredible to recall that back in the summer of 2015, the Rennes reserve-team winger was complaining about his lack of first-team action at the club.

Fast forward 15 months and that same player is now on top of the world, having been voted Ligue 1's Young Player of 2015-16, earning a €15million move to Bundesliga heavyweights Borussia Dortmund and forcing his way into the French national side.

Used as a sub in September's friendly win against Italy and the goalless Russia 2018 qualifier in Belarus five days later, the 19-year-old looked lively and enterprising on both occasions, and he undoubtedly has much to offer *Les Bleus* – not least his explosive pace, one-on-one flair and ability to perform on either flank or through the middle.

At present, he is likely to be used by France coach Didier Deschamps in short, sharp electrifying bursts.

2 Gabriel JESUS

BRAZIL

It's not easy to upstage Neymar, so what a thrill it must have been for the 19-year-old attacking prodigy to do just that on his international debut, scoring twice and creating another – having been fouled for a penalty, which Neymar converted – as the *Selecao* won 3-0 in Ecuador to claim their first win in the thin air of Quito since 1983.

The teen certainly had a summer of wall-to-wall milestones, with full international consecration, a starring role in Brazil's golden Rio Olympics and securing a big money transfer from Palmeiras to Manchester City in the new year.

Forceful and pacy, he constitutes a threat wherever he plays, having been used on the right wing at the Olympics and as a conventional centre-forward against Ecuador.

3 Valon BERISHA

KOSOVO

The talented attacking midfielder's penalty in a 1-1 draw in Finland was Kosovo's first goal in a competitive international.

Born and brought up in Scandinavia but a Kosovar-Albanian through blood, he has 20 full caps for Norway and would normally not have been allowed to switch national-team allegiances. However, having granted Kosovo full membership in May, FIFA were prepared to make some exceptions and gave the 23-year-old the right to reconnect with his roots.

With Red Bull Salzburg since 2012, he turned down a number of Premier League sides, including Manchester City and Aston Villa, as a teenager, figuring his long-term prospects would be better served at Viking in Stavanger.

4 MARCELINHO

BULGARIA

After four unsuccessful World Cup qualifying campaigns, Bulgaria are hoping that the goals and invention of a thirtysomething midfielder from Brazil's Amazonian region will help put an end to their prolonged spell in the wilderness.

Now in his sixth season with Ludogorets, he finally became eligible for the Balkan nation last spring, and since joining up with Ivaylo Petev's squad he has proved quite a lucky charm, scoring the only goal of the game on his debut against Portugal and heading home in the 4-3 win over Luxembourg.

Once an under-employed young professional at Sao Paulo, he says his dream is to one day return to the Morumbi stadium as a regular starter.

5 Michael GREGORITSCH

AUSTRIA

Coming off the bench to win his first cap in the 2-1 victory in Georgia, the 22-year-old Hamburg front man is that rare breed in the Austrian camp these days: a new face confidently gravitating towards centre stage.

In the wake of their dreadful Euro 2016 campaign, the national team undeniably needs an extra dimension and they have the ideal candidate in a player who is comfortable either as target man, number 10 or out wide.

Intelligent, resourceful and level-headed, "Michi" is the son of Austria's under-21 coach, Werner Gregoritsch, and has been one to watch for some time, scoring his first goal in professional football for Kapfenberg at 15.

He has been in Germany for four years, playing at Hoffenheim, St Pauli and Bochum prior to moving to Hamburg last year.

6 Paul ARRIOLA

USA

Not one to let opportunities go to waste, the Mexico-based right-winger could not have dreamt of a better start to his life with the US national side, marking his debut with a goal and an assist against Puerto Rico in May and again on the scoresheet as Trinidad & Tobago were thumped 4-0 in the recent World Cup qualifier.

A surprise inclusion in Jurgen Klinsmann's squad, the 21-year-old is one of only nine players to score in their first two outings for the United States and, as a winger who loves to take on defenders, he looks exactly what the side needs.

Born in California to parents of Mexican descent, he shone for the LA Galaxy youth team before joining Mexican top-flight side Tijuana in 2012. However, he continues to live in the USA, commuting across the border for training and matches.

AUGSBURG

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
24	Ioannis **GELIOS** (Gre)	(24) 24.04.92	
35	Marwin **HITZ** (Swi)	(29) 18.09.87	2013 / Wolfsburg
1	Andreas **LUTHE**	(29) 10.03.87	2016 / Bochum
18	Jan-Ingwer **CALLSEN-BRACKER**	(32) 23.09.84	2011 / B M'gladbach
32	Raphael **FRAMBERGER**	(21) 06.09.95	
15	Marvin **FRIEDRICH**	(20) 13.12.95	2016 / Schalke
6	Jeffrey **GOUWELEEUW** (Hol)	(25) 10.07.91	2016 / AZ (Hol)
36	Martin **HINTEREGGER** (Aut)	(24) 07.09.92	2016 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
16	Christoph **JANKER**	(31) 14.02.85	2015 / Hertha Berlin
31	Philipp **MAX**	(23) 30.09.93	2015 / Karlsruhe
4	Daniel **OPARE** (Gha)	(25) 18.10.90	2015 / Porto (Por)
40	Tim **RIEDER**	(23) 03.09.93	2010 / Bayern Munich
3	Kostas **STAFYLIDIS** (Gre)	(22) 02.12.93	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen
28	Georg **TEIGL** (Aut)	(25) 09.02.91	2016 / RB Leipzig
2	Paul **VERHAEGH** (Hol)	(33) 01.09.83	2010 / Vitesse (Hol)
7	Halil **ALTINTOP** (Tur)	(33) 08.12.82	2013 / Trabzonspor (Tur)
10	Daniel **BAIER**	(32) 18.05.84	2010 / Wolfsburg
8	Markus **FEULNER**	(34) 12.02.82	2014 / Nuremberg
20	Gojko **KACAR** (Ser)	(29) 26.01.87	2016 / Hamburg
21	Dominik **KOHR**	(22) 31.01.94	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen
19	**KOO** Ja-Cheol (SKo)	(27) 27.02.89	2015 / Mainz
14	Jan **MORAVEK** (CzR)	(26) 01.11.89	2012 / Schalke
29	Marco **SCHUSTER**	(20) 10.10.95	
11	Jonathan **SCHMID** (Fra)	(26) 26.06.90	2016 / Hoffenheim
39	Takashi **USAMI** (Jap)	(24) 06.05.92	2016 / G Osaka (Jap)
25	Raul **BOBADILLA** (Par)	(29) 18.06.87	2013 / Basle (Swi)
30	**CAIUBY** (Bra)	(28) 14.07.88	2014 / Ingolstadt
27	Alfred **FINNBOGASON** (Ice)	(27) 01.02.89	2016 / Sociedad (Spa)
22	**JI** Dong-Won (SKo)	(25) 28.05.91	2015 / Borussia Dortmund
	Dirk SCHUSTER	(48) 29.12.67	2016 / Darmstadt

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **1,000-1**

BAYER LEVERKUSEN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Bernd **LENO**	(24) 04.03.92	2011 / Stuttgart
36	Niklas **LOMB**	(23) 28.07.93	
28	Ramazan **OZCAN** (Aut)	(32) 28.06.84	2016 / Ingolstadt
32	Lukas **BOEDER**	(19) 18.04.97	2015 / Schalke
23	Danny **DA COSTA**	(23) 13.07.93	2016 / Ingolstadt
3	Aleksandar **DRAGOVIC** (Aut)	(25) 06.03.91	2016 / Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)
22	Joel Abu **HANNA**	(18) 22.01.98	
13	Roberto **HILBERT**	(31) 16.10.84	2013 / Besiktas (Tur)
16	Tin **JEDVAJ** (Cro)	(20) 28.11.95	2014 / Roma (Ita)
4	Jonathan **TAH**	(20) 11.02.96	2015 / Hamburg
21	Omer **TOPRAK** (Tur)	(27) 21.07.89	2011 / Freiburg
18	**WENDELL** (Bra)	(23) 20.07.93	2014 / Gremio (Bra)
20	Charles **ARANGUIZ** (Chl)	(27) 17.04.89	2015 / Internacional (Bra)
15	Julian **BAUMGARTLINGER** (Aut)	(28) 02.01.88	2016 / Mainz
38	Karim **BELLARABI**	(26) 08.04.90	2011 / E Braunschweig
8	Lars **BENDER**	(27) 27.04.89	2009 / 1860 Munich
19	Julian **BRANDT**	(20) 02.05.96	2014 / Wolfsburg
10	Hakan **CALHANOGLU** (Tur)	(22) 08.02.94	2014 / Hamburg
39	Benjamin **HENRICHS**	(19) 23.02.97	
44	Kevin **KAMPL** (Sln)	(25) 09.10.90	2015 / Borussia Dortmund
30	Sam **SCHRECK**	(17) 29.01.99	2016 / St Pauli
35	Vladlen **YURCHENKO** (Ukr)	(22) 22.01.94	2014 / Shakhtar (Ukr)
7	Javier **HERNANDEZ** (Mex)	(28) 01.06.88	2015 / Man United (Eng)
11	Stephan **KIESSLING**	(32) 25.01.84	2006 / Nuremberg
27	Robbie **KRUSE** (Aus)	(28) 05.10.88	2013 / Fortuna Dusseldorf
14	Admir **MEHMEDI** (Swi)	(25) 16.03.91	2015 / Freiburg
17	Joel **POHJANPALO** (Fin)	(22) 13.09.94	2013 / HJK (Fin)
31	Kevin **VOLLAND**	(24) 30.07.92	2016 / Hoffenheim
	Roger SCHMIDT	(49) 13.03.67	2014 / RB Salzburg (Aut)

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 1
Title odds: **50-1**

BAYERN MUNICH

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Manuel **NEUER**	(30) 27.03.86	2011 / Schalke
22	Tom **STARKE**	(35) 18.03.81	2012 / Hoffenheim
26	Sven **ULREICH**	(28) 03.08.88	2015 / Stuttgart
27	David **ALABA** (Aut)	(24) 24.06.92	2008 / Aust Vienna (Aut)
28	Holger **BADSTUBER**	(27) 13.03.89	
18	Juan **BERNAT** (Spa)	(23) 01.03.93	2014 / Valencia (Spa)
17	Jerome **BOATENG**	(28) 03.09.88	2011 / Man City (Eng)
2	Mats **HUMMELS**	(27) 16.12.88	2016 / Borussia Dortmund
21	Philipp **LAHM**	(32) 11.11.83	
13	**RAFINHA** (Bra)	(31) 07.09.85	2011 / Genoa (Ita)
14	Xabi **ALONSO** (Spa)	(34) 25.11.81	2014 / Real Madrid (Spa)
29	Kingsley **COMAN** (Fra)	(20) 13.06.96	2015 / Juventus (Ita) loan
11	Douglas **COSTA** (Bra)	(26) 14.09.90	2015 / Shakhtar (Ukr)
37	Julian **GREEN** (USA)	(21) 06.06.95	
32	Joshua **KIMMICH**	(21) 08.02.95	2015 / Stuttgart
8	Javi **MARTINEZ** (Spa)	(28) 02.09.88	2012 / Ath Bilbao (Spa)
7	Franck **RIBERY** (Fra)	(33) 01.04.83	2007 / Marseille (Fra)
35	Renato **SANCHES** (Por)	(19) 18.08.97	2016 / Benfica (Por)
6	**THIAGO** (Spa)	(25) 11.04.91	2013 / Barcelona (Spa)
23	Arturo **VIDAL** (Chl)	(29) 22.05.87	2015 / Juventus (Ita)
9	Robert **LEWANDOWSKI** (Pol)	(28) 21.08.88	2014 / Borussia Dortmund
25	Thomas **MULLER**	(27) 13.09.89	
10	Arjen **ROBBEN** (Hol)	(32) 23.01.84	2009 / Real Madrid (Spa)
	Carlo ANCELOTTI (Ita)	(57) 10.06.59	2016 / Real Madrid (Spa)

STATS
League wins: 26
Cup wins: 18
Title odds: **1-16**

Defending champions...Thomas Muller's Bayern Munich

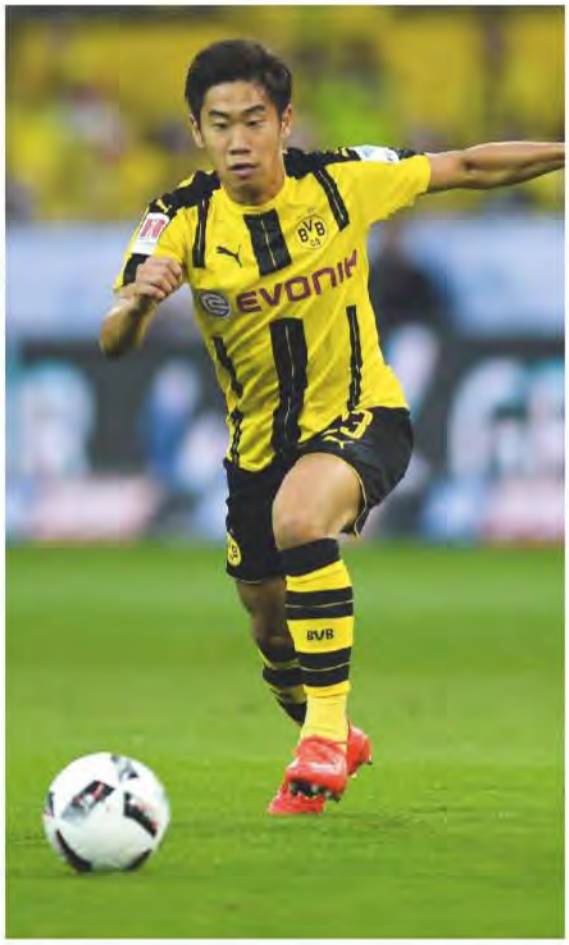
BORUSSIA DORTMUND

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	39 Hendrik **BONMANN**	(22) 22.01.94	2013 / RW Essen
Goalkeepers	38 Roman **BURKI** (Swi)	(25) 14.11.90	2015 / Freiburg
Goalkeepers	1 Roman **WEIDENFELLER**	(36) 06.08.80	2002 / Kaiserslautern
Defenders	5 Marc **BARTRA** (Spa)	(25) 15.01.91	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
Defenders	37 Eric **DURM**	(24) 12.05.92	2012 / Mainz
Defenders	28 Matthias **GINTER**	(22) 19.01.94	2014 / Freiburg
Defenders	13 Raphael **GUERREIRO** (Por)	(22) 22.12.93	2016 / Lorient (Fra)
Defenders	25 Sokratis **PAPASTATHOPOULOS** (Gre)	(28) 09.06.88	2013 / W Bremen
Defenders	3 **PARK** Joo-ho (SKo)	(29) 16.01.87	2015 / Mainz
Defenders	26 Lukasz **PISZCZEK** (Pol)	(31) 03.06.85	2010 / Hertha Berlin
Defenders	29 Marcel **SCHMELZER**	(28) 22.01.88	2005 / Magdeburg
Defenders	4 Neven **SUBOTIC** (Ser)	(27) 10.12.88	2008 / Mainz
Midfielders	6 Sven **BENDER**	(27) 27.04.89	2009 / 1860 Munich
Midfielders	32 Dzenis **BURNIC**	(18) 22.05.98	
Midfielders	27 Gonzalo **CASTRO**	(29) 11.06.87	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen
Midfielders	10 Mario **GOTZE**	(24) 03.06.92	2016 / Bayern Munich
Midfielders	23 Shinji **KAGAWA** (Jap)	(27) 17.03.89	2014 / Man United (Eng)
Midfielders	24 Mikel **MERINO** (Spa)	(20) 22.06.96	2016 / Osasuna (Spa)
Midfielders	9 Emre **MOR** (Tur)	(19) 24.07.97	2016 / Nordsjaelland Den)
Midfielders	30 Felix **PASSLACK**	(18) 29.05.98	2012 / RW Oberhausen
Midfielders	22 Christian **PULISIC** (USA)	(18) 18.09.98	
Midfielders	11 Marco **REUS**	(27) 31.05.89	2012 / B M'gladbach
Midfielders	18 Sebastian **RODE**	(25) 11.10.90	2016 / Bayern Munich
Midfielders	8 Nuri **SAHIN** (Tur)	(28) 05.09.88	2014 / Real Madrid (Spa)
Midfielders	21 Andre **SCHURRLE**	(25) 06.11.90	2016 / Wolfsburg
Midfielders	33 Julian **WEIGL**	(21) 08.09.95	2015 / 1860 Munich
Forwards	17 Pierre-Emerick **AUBAMEYANG** (Gab)	(27) 18.06.89	2013 / Saint-Etienne (Fra)
Forwards	7 Ousmane **DEMBELE** (Fra)	(19) 15.05.97	2016 / Rennes (Fra)
Forwards	20 Adrian **RAMOS** (Col)	(30) 22.01.86	2014 / Hertha Berlin
Coach	**Thomas TUCHEL**	(43) 29.08.73	2015 / Mainz

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
8	3

Title odds **8-1**



Chasing pack... Borussia Dortmund and Shinji Kagawa

BORUSSIA MONCHENGLADBACH

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	33 Christofer **HEIMEROTH**	(35) 01.08.81	2006 / Schalke
Goalkeepers	35 Moritz **NICOLAS**	(19) 21.10.97	
Goalkeepers	21 Tobias **SIPPEL**	(28) 22.03.88	2015 / Kaiserslautern
Goalkeepers	1 Yann **SOMMER** (Swi)	(27) 17.12.88	2014 / Basle (Swi)
Defenders	3 Andreas **CHRISTENSEN** (Den)	(20) 10.04.96	2015 / Chelsea (Eng)
Defenders	18 Alvaro **DOMINGUEZ** (Spa)	(27) 16.05.89	2012 / At Madrid (Spa)
Defenders	29 Mamadou **DOUCOURE** (Fra)	(18) 21.05.98	2016 / PSG (Fra)
Defenders	30 Nico **ELVEDI** (Swi)	(20) 30.09.96	2015 / Zurich (Swi)
Defenders	24 Tony **JANTSCHKE**	(26) 07.04.90	
Defenders	19 Fabian **JOHNSON** (USA)	(28) 11.12.87	2014 / Hoffenheim
Defenders	27 Julian **KORB**	(24) 21.03.92	
Defenders	14 Nico **SCHULZ**	(23) 01.04.93	2015 / Hertha Berlin
Defenders	4 Jannik **VESTERGAARD** (Den)	(24) 03.08.92	2016 / Werder Bremen
Defenders	17 Oscar **WENDT** (Swe)	(30) 24.10.85	2011 / Copenhagen (Den)
Defenders	22 Laszlo **BENES** (Slk)	(19) 09.09.97	2016 / MSK Zilina (Slk)
Midfielders	8 Mahmoud **DAHOUD**	(20) 01.01.96	
Midfielders	10 Thorgan **HAZARD** (Blg)	(23) 29.03.93	2015 / Chelsea (Eng)
Midfielders	7 Patrick **HERRMANN**	(25) 12.02.91	2008 / Saarbrucken
Midfielders	23 Jonas **HOFMANN**	(24) 14.07.92	2016 / Borussia Dortmund
Midfielders	6 Christoph **KRAMER**	(25) 19.02.91	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
Midfielders	26 Tsiy William **NDENGE**	(19) 13.06.97	
Midfielders	15 Marvin **SCHULZ**	(21) 15.01.95	
Midfielders	20 Djibril **SOW** (Swi)	(19) 06.02.97	2015 / Zurich (Swi)
Midfielders	5 Tobias **STROBL**	(26) 12.05.90	2016 / Hoffenheim
Midfielders	16 Ibrahima **TRAORE** (Gui)	(28) 21.04.88	2014 / Stuttgart
Forwards	9 Josip **DRMIC** (Swi)	(24) 08.08.92	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
Forwards	28 Andre **HAHN**	(26) 13.08.90	2014 / Augsburg
Forwards	11 **RAFFAEL** (Bra)	(31) 28.03.85	2013 / Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)
Forwards	13 Lars **STINDL**	(28) 26.08.88	2015 / Hanover
Coach	**Andre SCHUBERT**	(45) 24.07.71	2015 / Germany Under-15s

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
5	3

Title odds **80-1**

COLOGNE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	1 Timo **HORN**	(23) 12.05.93	
Goalkeepers	18 Thomas **KESSLER**	(30) 20.01.86	
Goalkeepers	35 Sven **MULLER**	(20) 16.02.96	
Defenders	14 Jonas **HECTOR**	(26) 27.05.90	2013 / Auersmacher
Defenders	3 Dominique **HEINTZ**	(23) 15.08.93	2015 / Kaiserslautern
Defenders	24 Lukas **KLUNTER**	(20) 26.05.96	
Defenders	5 Dominic **MAROH**	(29) 04.03.87	2012 / Nuremberg
Defenders	15 Mergim **MAVRAJ** (Alb)	(30) 09.06.86	2014 / Greuther Furth
Defenders	25 Filip **MLADENOVIC** (Ser)	(25) 15.08.91	2016 / BATE (Bls)
Defenders	16 Pawel **OLKOWSKI** (Pol)	(26) 13.02.90	2014 / Gornik Zabrze (Pol)
Defenders	4 Frederik **SORENSEN** (Den)	(24) 14.04.92	2015 / Juventus (Ita)
Midfielders	21 Leonardo **BITTENCOURT**	(22) 19.12.93	2015 / Hanover
Midfielders	30 Marcel **HARTEL**	(20) 19.01.96	
Midfielders	6 Marco **HOGER**	(27) 16.09.89	2016 / Schalke
Midfielders	8 Milos **JOJIC** (Ser)	(24) 19.03.92	2015 / Borussia Dortmund
Midfielders	33 Mathias **LEHMANN**	(33) 28.05.83	2012 / Eintracht Frankfurt
Midfielders	20 Salih **OZCAN**	(18) 11.01.98	
Midfielders	34 Konstantin **RAUSCH**	(26) 15.03.90	2016 / Darmstadt
Midfielders	7 Marcel **RISSE**	(26) 17.12.89	2013 / Mainz
Forwards	19 Sehrou **GUIRASSY** (Fra)	(20) 12.03.96	2016 / Lille (Fra)
Forwards	27 Anthony **MODESTE** (Fra)	(28) 14.04.88	2015 / Hoffenheim
Forwards	13 Yuya **OSAKO** (Jap)	(26) 18.05.90	2014 / 1860 Munich
Forwards	9 Artjoms **RUDNEVS** (Lat)	(28) 13.01.88	2016 / Hamburg
Forwards	11 Simon **ZOLLER**	(25) 26.06.91	2014 / Kaiserslautern
Coach	**Peter STOGER** (Aut)	(50) 11.04.66	2013 / Austroa Vienna (Aut)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
2	4

Title odds **500-1**

DARMSTADT

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	24 Ihor **BEREZOVSKYY** (Ukr)	(26) 24.08.90	2016 / Lierse (Blg)
●	31 Michael **ESSER**	(28) 22.11.87	2016 / Sturm Graz (Aut)
●	1 Daniel **FERNANDES** (Por)	(23) 13.11.92	2016 / Paderborn
●	36 Can Luka **AYDOGAN**	(17) 31.12.98	
●	7 Artem **FEDETSKYY** (Ukr)	(31) 26.04.85	2016 / Dnipro (Ukr)
●	5 Benjamin **GORKA**	(32) 15.04.84	2012 / Aalen
●	2 Leon **GUWARA**	(20) 28.06.96	2016 / W Bremen loan
●	21 Immanuel **HOHN**	(24) 23.12.91	2016 / Freiburg
●	32 Fabian **HOLLAND**	(26) 11.07.90	2015 / Hertha Berlin
●	3 Alexander **MILOSEVIC** (Swe)	(24) 30.01.92	2016 / Besiktas (Tur) loan
●	17 Sandro **SIRIGU**	(28) 07.10.88	2013 / Heidenheim
●	4 Aytac **SULU** (Tur)	(30) 11.12.85	2013 / Altach
●	38 Daniel **THUR**	(18) 28.04.98	
●	35 Johannes **WOLFF**	(18) 10.07.98	
●	28 Anis **BEN-HATIRA** (Tun)	(28) 18.07.88	2016 / Eintracht Frankfurt
●	37 Liam **FISCH**	(18) 23.11.98	
●	8 Jerome **GONDORF**	(28) 26.06.88	2013 / Stuttgarter Kickers
●	20 Marcel **HELLER**	(30) 19.01.86	2013 / Alemannia Aachen
●	23 Florian **JUNGWIRTH**	(27) 27.01.89	2014 / Bochum
●	30 Laszlo **KLEINHEISLER** (Hun)	(22) 08.04.94	2016 / W Bremen loan
●	18 Peter **NIEMEYER**	(32) 22.11.83	2015 / Hertha Berlin
●	10 Jan **ROSENTHAL**	(30) 07.04.86	2015 / Eintracht Frankfurt
●	6 Mario **VRANCIC** (Bos)	(27) 23.05.89	2015 / Paderborn
●	14 Roman **BEZJAK** (Sln)	(27) 21.02.89	2016 / Rijeka (Cro)
●	16 Antonio **COLAK** (Cro)	(23) 17.09.93	2016 / Hoffenheim
●	11 Victor **OBINNA** (Nga)	(29) 25.03.87	2016 / Duisburg
●	22 Denys **OLIYNYK** (Ukr)	(29) 16.06.87	2016 / Vitesse (Hol)
●	19 Felix **PLATTE**	(20) 11.02.96	2016 / Schalke
●	39 Sven **SCHIPPLOCK**	(27) 08.11.88	2016 / Hamburg loan
●	9 Dominik **STROH-ENGEL**	(30) 27.11.85	2013 / Wehen-Wiesbaden
●	**Norbert MEIER**	(58) 20.09.58	2016 / Arminia Bielefeld

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: 2,000-1

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	34 Leon **BATGE**	(19) 09.07.97	2016 / Wolfsburg
●	1 Lukas **HRADECKY** (Fin)	(26) 24.11.89	2015 / Brondby (Den)
●	13 Heinz **LINDNER** (Aut)	(26) 17.07.90	2015 / Aust Vienna (Aut)
●	19 David **ABRAHAM** (Arg)	(30) 16.07.86	2015 / Hoffenheim
●	23 **ANDERSON BAMBA** (Bra)	(28) 10.01.88	2011 / B M'gladbach
●	22 Timmy **CHANDLER** (USA)	(26) 29.03.90	2014 / Nuremberg
●	15 Michael **HECTOR** (Jam)	(24) 19.07.92	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
●	6 Bastian **OCZIPKA**	(27) 12.01.89	2012 / Bayer Leverkusen
●	2 Yanni **REGASEL**	(20) 13.01.96	2016 / Hertha Berlin
●	33 Taleb **TAWATHA** (Isr)	(24) 21.06.92	2016 / Maccabi Haifa (Isr)
●	5 Jesus **VALLEJO** (Spa)	(19) 05.01.97	2016 / R Madrid (Spa) loan
●	3 Guillermo **VARELA** (Uru)	(23) 24.03.93	2016 / Man United (Eng)
●	36 Furkan **ZORBA**	(18) 25.02.98	
●	7 Danny **BLUM**	(25) 07.01.91	2016 / Nuremberg
●	10 Marco **FABIAN** (Mex)	(27) 21.07.89	2016 / Guadalajara (Mex)
●	18 Johannes **FLUM**	(28) 25.02.88	2013 / Freiburg
●	11 Mijat **GACINOVIC** (Bos)	(21) 08.02.95	2015 / Vojvodina (Ser)
●	32 Joel **GEREZGIHER**	(20) 09.10.95	2012 / FSV Frankfurt
●	20 Makoto **HASEBE** (Jap)	(32) 18.01.84	2014 / Nuremberg
●	8 Szabolcs **HUSZTI** (Hun)	(33) 18.04.83	2016 / Changchun Yatai (Chn)
●	39 Omar **MASCARELL** (Spa)	(23) 02.02.93	2016 / Real Madrid (Spa)
●	25 Slobodan **MEDOJEVIC** (Ser)	(25) 20.10.90	2014 / Wolfsburg
●	14 Alexander **MEIER**	(33) 17.01.83	2004 / Hamburg
●	4 Marco **RUSS**	(31) 04.08.85	2013 / Wolfsburg
●	21 Marc **STENDERA**	(20) 10.12.95	
●	38 Enis **BUNJAKI**	(18) 17.10.97	
●	31 Branimir **HRGOTA** (Swe)	(23) 12.01.93	2016 / B M'gladbach
●	17 Ante **REBIC** (Cro)	(23) 21.09.93	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita) loan
●	9 Haris **SEFEROVIC** (Swi)	(24) 22.02.92	2014 / Sociedad (Spa)
●	30 Shani **TARASHAJ** (Swi)	(21) 07.02.95	2016 / Everton (Eng) loan
●	**Niko KOVAC** (Cro)	(44) 15.10.71	2016 / Croatia

STATS
League wins: 1
Cup wins: 4
Title odds: 750-1

FREIBURG

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	44 Rafal **GIKIEWICZ** (Pol)	(28) 26.10.87	2016 / E Braunschweig
●	21 Patric **KLANDT**	(33) 29.09.83	2015 / FSV Frankfurt
●	1 Alexander **SCHWOLOW**	(24) 02.06.92	2008 / Wehen-Wiesbaden
●	25 Jonas **FOHRENBACH**	(20) 26.01.96	
●	5 Manuel **GULDE**	(25) 12.02.91	2016 / Karlsruhe
●	30 Christian **GUNTER**	(23) 28.02.93	
●	2 Aleksandar **IGNJOVSKI** (Ser)	(25) 27.01.91	2016 / Eintracht Frankfurt
●	20 Marc-Oliver **KEMPF**	(21) 28.01.95	2014 / Eintracht Frankfurt
●	17 Lukas **KUBLER**	(24) 30.08.92	2015 / Sandhausen
●	24 Georg **NIEDERMEIER**	(30) 26.02.86	2016 / Stuttgart
●	4 Caglar **SOYUNCU** (Tur)	(20) 23.05.96	2016 / Altinordu (Tur)
●	3 Marc **TORREJON** (Spa)	(30) 18.02.86	2014 / Kaiserslautern
●	6 Amir **ABRASHI** (Alb)	(26) 27.03.90	2015 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
●	11 Onur **BULUT** (Tur)	(22) 16.04.94	2016 / Bochum
●	8 Mike **FRANTZ**	(29) 14.10.86	2014 / Nuremberg
●	32 Vincenzo **GRIFO** (Ita)	(23) 07.04.93	2015 / Hoffenheim
●	31 Karim **GUEDE** (Slk)	(31) 07.01.85	2012 / Slovan (Slk)
●	19 Janik **HABERER**	(22) 02.04.94	2016 / Hoffenheim
●	27 Nicolas **HOFLER**	(26) 09.03.90	2005 / Pfullendorf
●	35 Lucas **HUFNAGEL** (Geo)	(22) 29.01.94	2015 / Unterhaching
●	29 Charles-Elie **LAPREVOTTE** (Fra)	(24) 05.10.92	2007 / Strasbourg (Fra)
●	22 Jonas **MEFFERT**	(22) 04.09.94	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
●	16 Mats **MOLLER DAEHLI** (Nor)	(21) 02.03.95	2014 / Cardiff City (Eng)
●	26 Maximilian **PHILIPP**	(22) 01.03.94	2013 / Energie Cottbus
●	15 Pascal **STENZEL**	(20) 20.03.96	2016 / Dortmund loan
●	23 Julian **SCHUSTER**	(31) 15.04.85	2008 / Stuttgart
●	34 Amir **FALAHEN** (Pal)	(23) 15.03.93	
●	7 Florian **NIEDERLECHNER**	(25) 24.10.90	2016 / Mainz loan
●	14 Havard **NIELSEN** (Nor)	(23) 15.07.93	2016 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
●	18 Nils **PETERSEN**	(27) 06.12.88	2015 / Werder Bremen
●	**Christian STREICH**	(51) 11.06.65	2011 / Freiburg assistant

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: 1,000-1

HAMBURG

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	1 Rene **ADLER**	(31) 15.01.85	2012 / Bayer Leverkusen
●	30 Andreas **HIRZEL** (Swi)	(23) 25.03.93	2015 / Vaduz (Swi)
●	31 Christian **MATHENIA**	(24) 31.03.92	2016 / Darmstadt
●	36 Tom **MICKEL**	(27) 19.04.89	2015 / Greuther Furth
●	3 **CLEBER** (Bra)	(25) 05.12.90	2014 / Corinthians (Bra)
●	2 Dennis **DIEKMEIER**	(26) 20.10.89	2010 / Nuremberg
●	5 Johan **DJOUROU** (Swi)	(29) 18.01.87	2014 / Arsenal (Eng)
●	6 **DOUGLAS (BRA)**	(22) 22.03.94	2016 / At Mineiro (Bra)
●	39 Ashton **GOTZ**	(23) 16.07.93	
●	28 Gideon **JUNG**	(22) 12.09.94	2014 / RW Oberhausen
●	22 Matthias **OSTRZOLEK**	(26) 05.06.90	2014 / Augsburg
●	24 Gotoku **SAKAI** (Jap)	(25) 14.03.91	2015 / Stuttgart
●	37 **SEO** Young-Jae (SKo)	(21) 23.05.95	2015/ Hanyang Univ (SKo)
●	4 Emir **SPAHIC** (Bos)	(36) 18.08.80	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen
●	20 Albin **EKDAL** (Swe)	(27) 28.07.89	2015 / Cagliari (Ita)
●	19 Dren **FEKA**	(19) 09.06.97	
●	11 Michael **GREGORITSCH** (Aut)	(22) 18.04.94	2015 / Bochum
●	23 Alen **HALILOVIC** (Cro)	(20) 18.06.96	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
●	8 Lewis **HOLTBY**	(26) 18.09.90	2015 / Tottenham H (Eng)
●	14 Aaron **HUNT**	(30) 04.09.86	2015 / Wolfsburg
●	17 Filip **KOSTIC** (Ser)	(23) 01.11.92	2016 / Stuttgart
●	27 Nicolai **MULLER**	(29) 25.09.87	2014 / Mainz
●	34 Finn **PORATH**	(19) 23.02.97	
●	32 Frank **RONSTADT**	(19) 21.07.97	
●	21 Nabil **BAHOUI** (Swe)	(25) 05.02.91	2016 / Al Ahli (Sau)
●	18 Bakery **JATTA** (Gam)	(18) 06.06.98	
●	25 Mats **KOHLERT**	(18) 02.05.98	
●	10 Pierre-Michel **LASOGGA**	(24) 15.12.91	2014 / Hertha Berlin
●	15 Luca **WALDSCHMIFT**	(20) 19.05.96	2016 / Eintracht Frankfurt
●	7 Bobby **WOOD** (USA)	(23) 15.11.92	2016 / Union Berlin
●	**Markus GISDOL**	(47) 17.08.69	2016 / Hoffenheim

STATS
League wins: 6
Cup wins: 3
Title odds: 1,000-1

Neck and neck...Hertha Berlin's Vedad Ibisevic (left) and David Abraham of Eintracht Frankfurt

HERTHA BERLIN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeeper	22 Rune **JARSTEIN** (Nor)	(32) 29.09.84	2014 / Viking (Nor)
Goalkeeper	29 Nils-Jonathan **KORBER**	(19) 13.11.96	
Goalkeeper	1 Thomas **KRAFT**	(28) 22.07.88	2011 / Bayern Munich
Defender	25 John **BROOKS** (USA)	(23) 28.01.93	
Defender	15 Sebastian **LANGKAMP**	(28) 15.01.88	2013 / Augsburg
Defender	28 Fabian **LUSTENBERGER** (Swi)	(28) 02.05.88	2007 / Lucerne (Swi)
Defender	34 Maximilian **MITTELSTADT**	(19) 18.03.97	
Defender	2 Peter **PEKARIK** (Slk)	(29) 30.10.86	2012 / Wolfsburg
Defender	21 Marvin **PLATTENHARDT**	(24) 26.01.92	2014 / Nuremberg
Defender	5 Niklas **STARK**	(21) 14.04.95	2015 / Nuremberg
Defender	23 Mitchell **WEISER**	(22) 21.04.94	2015 / Bayern Munich
Midfielder	20 **ALLAN** (Bra)	(19) 03.03.97	2016 / Liverpool (Eng) loan
Midfielder	9 Alexander **BAUMJOHANN**	(29) 23.01.87	2013 / Kaiserslautern
Midfielder	6 Vladimir **DARIDA** (CzR)	(26) 08.08.90	2015 / Freiburg
Midfielder	10 Ondrej **DUDA** (Slk)	(21) 15.12.94	2016 / Legia Warsaw (Pol)
Midfielder	7 Alexander **ESSWEIN**	(26) 25.03.90	2016 / Augsburg
Midfielder	24 Genki **HARAGUCHI** (Jap)	(25) 09.05.91	2014 / Urawa Reds (Jap)
Midfielder	13 Jens **HEGELER**	(28) 22.01.88	2014 / Bayer Leverkusen
Midfielder	31 Florian **KOHLS**	(21) 03.04.95	
Midfielder	18 Sinan **KURT**	(20) 23.07.96	2016 / Bayern Munich
Midfielder	3 Per **CILJAN SKJELBREID** (Nor)	(29) 16.06.87	2014 / Hamburg
Midfielder	14 Valentin **STOCKER** (Swi)	(27) 12.04.89	2014 / Basle (Swi)
Forward	11 Sami **ALLAGUI** (Tun)	(30) 28.05.86	2012 / Mainz
Forward	19 Vedad **IBISEVIC** (Bos)	(32) 06.08.84	2016 / Stuttgart
Forward	8 Salomon **KALOU** (IvC)	(31) 05.08.85	2014 / Lille (Fra)
Forward	16 Julian **SCHIEBER**	(27) 13.02.89	
Coach	**Pal DARDAI** (Hun)	(40) 16.03.76	2015 / Hungary

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
2	0

Title odds **750-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **1,000-1**

HOFFENHEIM

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeeper	1 Oliver **BAUMANN**	(26) 02.06.90	2014 / Freiburg
Goalkeeper	36 Gregor **KOBEL** (Swi)	(18) 06.12.97	2016 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
Goalkeeper	33 Alexander **STOLZ**	(32) 13.10.83	2013 / Karlsruhe
Defender	4 Ermin **BICAKCIC** (Bos)	(26) 24.01.90	2014 / E Braunschweig
Defender	21 Benjamin **HUBNER**	(27) 04.07.89	2016 / Ingolstadt
Defender	3 Pavel **KADERABEK** (CzR)	(24) 25.04.92	2015 / Sparta (CzR)
Defender	20 **KIM** Jin-Su (SKo)	(24) 13.06.92	2014 / Albirex Niigata (Jap)
Defender	5 Fabian **SCHAR** (Swi)	(24) 20.12.91	2015 / Basle (Swi)
Defender	25 Niklas **SULE**	(21) 03.09.95	2010 / Darmstadt
Defender	15 Jeremy **TOLJAN**	(22) 08.08.94	2011 / Stuttgart
Midfielder	18 Nadiem **AMIRI**	(19) 27.10.96	2012 / Waldhof Mannheim
Midfielder	13 Kerem **DEMIRBAY** (Tur)	(23) 03.07.93	2016 / Hamburg
Midfielder	32 Dennis **GEIGER**	(18) 10.06.98	
Midfielder	11 Jiloan **HAMAD** (Swe)	(25) 06.11.90	2014 / Malmo (Swe)
Midfielder	30 Philipp **OCHS**	(19) 17.04.97	
Midfielder	8 Eugen **POLANSKI** (Pol)	(30) 17.03.86	2013 / Mainz
Midfielder	6 Sebastian **RUDY**	(26) 28.02.90	2010 / Stuttgart
Midfielder	7 Lukas **RUPP**	(25) 08.01.91	2016 / Stuttgart
Midfielder	16 Pirmin **SCHWEGLER** (Swi)	(29) 09.03.87	2014 / Eintracht Frankfurt
Midfielder	22 Kevin **VOGT**	(25) 23.09.91	2016 / Cologne
Midfielder	17 Steven **ZUBER** (Swi)	(25) 17.08.91	2014 / CSKA (Rus)
Forward	34 Baris **ATIK** (Tur)	(21) 09.01.95	2013 / W Mannheim
Forward	27 Andrej **KRAMARIC** (Cro)	(25) 19.06.91	2016 / Leicester City (Eng)
Forward	28 Adam **SZALAI** (Hun)	(28) 09.12.87	2014 / Schalke
Forward	23 Marco **TERRAZZINO**	(25) 15.04.91	2016 / Bochum
Forward	19 Mark **UTH**	(25) 24.08.91	2015 / Heerenveen (Hol)
Forward	14 Sandro **WAGNER**	(28) 29.11.87	2016 / Darmstadt
Forward	10 Eduardo **VARGAS** (Chl)	(26) 20.11.89	2015 / Napoli (Ita)
Coach	**Julian NAGELSMANN**	(29) 23.07.87	2016 / Hoffenheim U19s

INGOLSTADT

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
24	Fabijan **BUNTIC** (Cro)	(19) 24.02.97	2016 / Stuttgart
35	Martin **HANSEN** (Den)	(26) 15.06.90	2016 / Den Haag (Hol)
1	Orjan **NYLAND** (Nor)	(26) 10.09.90	2015 / Molde (Nor)
39	Christian **ORTAG**	(21) 14.01.95	2014 / Karlsruhe
18	Roman **BREGERIE** (Fra)	(30) 09.08.86	2015 / Darmstadt
33	Florent **HADERGJONAJ** (Alb)	(22) 31.07.94	2016 / Young Boys (Swi)
3	Anthony **JUNG**	(24) 03.11.91	2016 / RB Leipzig
28	Tobias **LEVELS**	(29) 22.11.86	2014 / Fortuna Dusseldorf
34	Marvin **MATIP** (Cam)	(31) 25.09.85	2010 / Cologne
29	Markus **SUTTNER** (Aut)	(29) 16.04.87	2015 / Aust Vienna (Aut)
32	Marcel **TISSERAND** (DRC)	(23) 10.01.93	2016 / Monaco (Fra)
17	Hauke **WAHL**	(22) 15.04.94	2016 / Paderborn
19	Max **CHRISTIANSEN**	(20) 25.09.96	2015 / Hansa Rostock
36	Almog **COHEN** (Isr)	(28) 01.09.88	2013 / Nuremberg
10	Pascal **GROSS**	(25) 15.06.91	2012 / Karlsruhe
21	Sonny **KITTEL**	(23) 06.01.93	2016 / E Frankfurt
13	Robert **LEIPERTZ**	(23) 01.02.93	2016 / Schalke
14	Stefan **LEX**	(26) 27.11.89	2014 / Greuther Furth
6	Alfredo **MORALES** (USA)	(26) 12.05.90	2013 / Hertha Berlin
31	Maurice **MULTHAUP**	(19) 15.12.96	2015 / Schalke
22	Nico **RINDERKNECHT**	(18) 11.10.97	2016 / E Frankfurt
8	**ROGER** (Bra)	(31) 10.08.85	2012 / Energie Cottbus
9	Moritz **HARTMANN**	(30) 20.06.86	29 / Cologne
16	Lukas **HINTERSEER** (Aut)	(25) 28.03.91	2014 / Wacker Innsbruck
7	Matthew **LECKIE** (Aus)	(25) 04.02.91	2014 / FSV Frankfurt
11	Dario **LEZCANO** (Par)	(26) 30.06.90	2016 / Lucerne (Swi)
	Markus KAUCZINSKI	(46) 20.02.70	2016 / Karlsruhe

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds

2,000-1

Outsider...Ingolstadt's Dario Lezcano

Euro ambition...Mainz prepare to take on Saint-Etienne in the Europa League

MAINZ

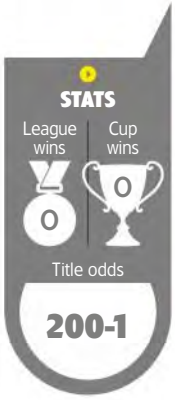
Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
23	Gianluca **CURCI** (Ita)	(31) 12.07.85	2015 / Roma (Ita)
33	Jannik **HUTH**	(22) 15.04.94	
1	Jonas **LOSSL** (Den)	(27) 01.02.89	2016 / Guingamp (Fra)
46	Florian **MULLER**	(18) 13.11.97	20154 / Saarbrucken
3	Leon **BALOGUN** (Nga)	(28) 28.06.88	2015 / Darmstadt
16	Stefan **BELL**	(25) 24.08.91	
18	Daniel **BROSINSKI**	(28) 17.07.88	2014 / Greuther Furth
26	Niko **BUNGERT**	(29) 24.10.86	2008 / Kickers Offenbach
24	Gaetan **BUSSMANN** (Fra)	(25) 02.02.91	2015 / Metz (Fra)
2	Giulio **DONATI** (Ita)	(26) 05.02.90	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
25	Jean-Philippe **GBAMIN** (Fra)	(21) 25.05.95	2016 / Lens (Fra)
42	Alexander **HACK**	(23) 08.09.93	2015 / Unterhaching
22	Andre **RAMALHO** (Bra)	(24) 16.02.92	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
27	Christian **CLEMENS**	(24) 04.08.91	2015 / Schalke
20	Fabian **FREI** (Swi)	(27) 08.01.89	2015 / Basle (Swi)
30	Besar **HALIMI** (Kos)	(21) 12.12.94	2015 / Stuttgarter Kickers
38	Gerrit **HOLTMANN**	(21) 25.03.95	2016 / E Braunschweig
17	**JAIRO** (Spa)	(23) 11.07.93	2014 / Sevilla (Spa)
47	Philipp **KLEMENT**	(24) 09.09.92	2014 / Nuremberg
6	Danny **LATZA**	(26) 07.12.89	2015 / Bochum
10	Yunus **MALLI** (Tur)	(24) 24.02.92	2011 / B M'gladbach
8	Levin **OZTUNALI**	(20) 15.03.96	2016 / Bayer Leverkusen
29	Devante **PARKER**	(20) 16.03.96	
5	Jose **RODRIGUEZ** (Spa)	(21) 16.12.94	2016 / Galatasaray (Tur)
45	Suat **SERDAR**	(19) 11.04.97	
11	Emil **BERGGREEN** (Den)	(23) 10.05.93	2016 / E Braunschweig
15	Jhon **CORDOBA** (Col)	(23) 11.05.93	2016 / Granada (Spa)
32	Pablo **DE BLASIS** (Arg)	(28) 04.02.88	2014 / Asteras (Gre)
9	Yoshinori **MUTO** (Jap)	(24) 15.07.92	2015 / Tokyo (Jap)
21	Karim **ONISIWO** (Aut)	(24) 17.03.92	2016 / Mattersburg (Aut)
	Martin SCHMIDT (Swi)	(49) 12.04.67	2015 / Mainz II

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds

500-1



RB LEIPZIG

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Fabio **COLTORTI** (Swi)	(35) 03.12.80	2012 / Lausanne (Swi)
32	Peter **GULACSI** (Hun)	(26) 06.05.90	2015 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
21	Marius **MULLER**	(23) 12.07.93	2016 / Kaiserslautern
3	**BERNARDO (BRA)**	(21) 14.05.95	2016 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
33	Marvin **COMPPER**	(31) 14.06.85	2014 / Fiorentina (Ita)
23	Marcel **HALSTENBERG**	(25) 27.09.91	2015 / St Pauli
16	Lukas **KLOSTERMANN**	(20) 03.06.96	2014 / Bochum
4	Willi **ORBAN**	(23) 03.11.92	2015 / Kaiserslautern
5	Kyriakos **PAPADOPOULOS** (Gre)	(24) 23.02.92	2016 / Leverkusen loan
20	Benno **SCHMITZ**	(21) 17.11.94	2016 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
19	Oliver **BURKE** (Sco)	(19) 07.04.97	2016 / Nottingham F (Eng)
31	Diego **DEMME**	(24) 21.11.91	2014 / Paderborn
10	Emil **FORSBERG** (Swe)	(24) 23.10.91	2015 / Malmo (Swe)
13	Stefan **ILSANKER** (Aut)	(27) 18.05.89	2015 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
24	Dominik **KAISER**	(28) 16.09.88	2012 / Hoffenheim
35	Zsolt **KALMAR** (Hun)	(21) 09.06.95	2014 / Gyor (Hun)
8	Naby **KEITA** (Gui)	(21) 10.02.95	2016 / RB Salzburg (Aut)
6	Rani **KHEDIRA**	(22) 27.01.94	2014 / Stuttgart
18	Terrence **BOYD** (USA)	(25) 16.02.91	2014 / Rapid Vienna (Aut)
9	Yussuf **POULSEN** (Den)	(22) 15.06.94	2013 / Lyngby (Den)
7	Marcel **SABITZER** (Aut)	(22) 17.03.94	2014 / Rapid Vienna (Aut)
27	Davie **SELKE**	(21) 20.01.95	2015 / Werder Bremen
11	Timo **WERNER**	(20) 06.03.96	2016 / Stuttgart
	Ralph HASENHUTTL (Aut)	(49) 09.08.67	2016 / Ingolstadt

SCHALKE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Ralf **FAHRMANN**	(28) 27.09.88	2011 / Eintracht Frankfurt
34	Fabian **GIEFER**	(26) 17.05.90	2014 / Fortuna Dusseldorf
35	Alexander **NUBEL**	(20) 30.09.96	2015 / Paderborn
30	Timon **WELLENREUTHER**	(20) 03.12.95	2013 / Karlsruhe
15	Dennis **AOGO**	(29) 14.01.87	2014 / Hamburg
28	Joshua **BITTER**	(19) 01.01.97	
3	Junior **CAICARA** (Bra)	(27) 27.04.89	2015 / Ludogorets (Bul)
23	**COKE (SPA)**	(29) 26.04.87	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
4	Benedikt **HOWEDES**	(28) 29.02.88	
20	Thilo **KEHRER**	(20) 21.09.96	2012 / Reutlingen
6	Sead **KOLASINAC** (Bos)	(23) 20.06.93	2012 / Stuttgart
29	**NALDO (BRA)**	(34) 10.09.82	2016 / Wolfsburg
31	Matija **NASTASIC** (Ser)	(23) 28.03.93	2015 / Man City (Eng)
40	Phil **NEUMANN**	(19) 08.07.97	
14	Baba **RAHMAN** (Gha)	(22) 02.07.94	2016 / Chelsea (Eng)
27	Sascha **RIETHER**	(33) 23.03.83	2015 / Freiburg
22	Atsuto **UCHIDA** (Jap)	(28) 27.03.88	2010 / Kashima A (Jap)
10	Nabil **BENTALEB** (Alg)	(21) 24.11.94	2016 / Tottenham H (Eng)
5	Johannes **GEIS**	(23) 07.08.93	2015 / Mainz
8	Leon **GORETZKA**	(21) 06.02.95	2013 / Bochum
11	Yevhen **KONOPLYANKA** (Ukr)	(27) 29.09.89	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
7	Max **MEYER**	(21) 18.09.95	2009 / Duisburg
18	Sidney **SAM**	(28) 31.01.88	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen
21	Alessandro **SCHOPF** (Aut)	(22) 07.02.94	2016 / Nuremberg
17	Benjamin **STAMBOULI** (Fra)	(26) 13.08.90	2016 / PSG (Fra)
33	Donis **AVDIJAJ** (Alb)	(20) 25.08.96	2011 / Osnabruck
13	Eric **CHOUPO-MOTING** (Cam)	(27) 23.03.89	2014 / Mainz
9	Franco **DI SANTO** (Arg)	(27) 07.04.89	2015 / Werder Bremen
36	Breel **EMBOLO** (Swi)	(19) 14.02.97	2016 / Basle (Swi)
25	Klaas-Jan **HUNTELAAR** (Hol)	(33) 12.08.83	2010 / Milan (Ita)
16	Fabian **REESE**	(18) 29.11.97	2013 / Holstein Kiel
32	Bernard **TEKPETEY** (Gha)	(19) 03.09.97	2016 / UniStar Acad (Gha)

● **Markus WEINZIERL** (41) 28.12.74 2016 /Augsburg

STATS

League wins: 7

Cup wins: 5

Title odds: **250-1**

STATS

League wins: 4

Cup wins: 6

Title odds: **1,000-1**

WERDER BREMEN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
33	Jaroslav **DROBNY** (CzR)	(36) 18.10.79	2016 / Hamburg
42	Felix **WIEDWALD**	(26) 15.03.90	2015 / Eintracht Frankfurt
1	Raphael **WOLF**	(28) 06.06.88	2012 / Kapfenberg
30	Michael **ZETTERER**	(21) 12.07.95	2015 / Unterhaching
3	Luca **CALDIROLA** (Ita)	(25) 01.02.91	2013 / Internazionale (Ita)
21	Fallou **DIAGNE** (Sen)	(27) 14.08.89	2016 / Rennes (Fra)
2	Santiago **GARCIA** (Arg)	(28) 08.07.88	2014 / Palermo
20	Ulisses **GARCIA** (Swi)	(20) 11.01.96	2015 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
23	Theodor **GEBRE SELASSIE** (CzR)	(29) 24.12.86	2012/Slovan (CzR)
18	Niklas **MOISANDER** (Fin)	(31) 29.09.85	2016 / Sampdoria (Ita)
26	Lamine **SANE** (Sen)	(29) 22.03.87	2016 / Bordeaux (Fra)
37	Janek **STERNBERG**	(23) 19.10.92	2013 / Hamburg
44	Philipp **BARGFREDE**	(27) 03.03.89	
22	Fin **BARTELS**	(29) 07.02.87	2014 / St Pauli
4	Robert **BAUER**	(21) 09.04.95	2016 / Ingolstadt
35	Maximilian **EGGESTEIN**	(19) 08.12.96	
8	Clemens **FRITZ**	(35) 07.12.80	2006 / Bayer Leverkusen
39	Lukas **FRODE**	(21) 23.01.95	2009 / Carl Zeiss Jena
29	Serge **GNABRY**	(21) 14.07.95	2016 / Arsenal (Eng)
27	Florian **GRILLITSCH** (Aut)	(21) 07.08.95	2013 / St Polten (Aut)
15	Izet **HAJROVIC** (Bos)	(25) 04.08.91	2014 / Galatasaray (Tur)
16	Zlatko **JUNUZOVIC** (Aut)	(29) 26.09.87	2012 / Aust Vienna (Aut)
7	Florian **KAINZ** (Aut)	(23) 24.10.92	2016 / Rapid Vienna (Aut)
25	Thanos **PETSOS**	(25) 05.06.91	2016 / Rapid Vienna (Aut)
13	Milos **VELJKOVIC** (Ser)	(21) 26.09.95	2016 / Tottenham H (Eng)
5	Sambou **YATABARE** (Mli)	(27) 02.03.89	2016 / Olympiakos (Gre)
17	Justin **EILERS**	(28) 13.06.88	2016 / Dynamo Dresden
24	Johannes **EGGESTEIN**	(18) 08.05.98	
9	Aron **JOHANNSSON** (USA)	(25) 10.11.90	2015 / AZ (Hol)
10	Max **KRUSE**	(28) 19.03.88	2016 / Wolfsburg
28	Melvyn **LORENZEN** (Uga)	(21) 26.11.94	2013 / Holstein Kiel
14	Claudio **PIZARRO** (Per)	(38) 03.10.78	2015 / Bayern Munich
11	Lennart **THY**	(24) 25.02.92	2016 / St Pauli

● (vacant)

Simply the chest...Wolfsburg's Daniel Caligiuri holds off Paul Verhaegh of Augsburg

STATS

League wins: 1

Cup wins: 1

Title odds: **66-1**

WOLFSBURG

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Diego **BENAGLIO** (Swi)	(33) 08.09.83	2008 / Nacional (Por)
28	Koen **CASTEELS** (Blg)	(24) 25.06.92	2015 / Hoffenheim
20	Max **GRUN**	(29) 05.04.87	2013 / Greuther Furth
36	Phillip **MENZEL**	(18) 18.08.98	? / Holstein Kiel
6	Carlos **ASCUES** (Per)	(24) 19.06.92	2015 / FBC Melgar (Per)
5	Jeffrey **BRUMA** (Hol)	(24) 13.11.91	2016 / PSV (Hol)
21	Jannes **HORN**	(19) 06.02.97	
24	Sebastian **JUNG**	(26) 22.06.90	2014 / Eintracht Frankfurt
31	Robin **KNOCHE**	(24) 22.05.92	
34	Ricardo **RODRIGUEZ** (Swi)	(24) 25.08.92	2012 / Zurich (Swi)
4	Marcel **SCHAFER**	(32) 07.06.84	2007 / 1860 Munich
15	Christian **TRASCH**	(29) 01.09.87	2011 / Stuttgart
2	Philipp **WOLLSCHEID**	(27) 06.03.89	2016 / Stoke (Eng) loan
40	Robin **ZIEGELE**	(19) 13.03.97	
27	Maximilian **ARNOLD**	(22) 27.05.94	2009 / Dynamo Dresden
38	Ismail **AZZAOUI** (Blg)	(18) 06.01.98	2015 / Tottenham H (Eng)
14	Jakub **BLASZCZYKOWSKI** (Pol)	(30) 14.12.85	2016 / Bor Dortmund
7	Daniel **CALIGIURI**	(28) 15.01.88	2013 / Freiburg
29	Amara **CONDE**	(19) 06.01.97	
11	Daniel **DIDAVI**	(26) 21.02.90	2016 / Stuttgart
35	Anton **DONKOR**	(18) 11.11.97	
10	Julian **DRAXLER**	(23) 20.09.93	2015 / Schalke
13	Yannick **GERHARDT**	(22) 13.03.94	2016 / Cologne
23	Josuha **GUILAVOGUI** (Fra)	(26) 19.09.90	2016 / Wolfsburg
22	**LUIZ GUSTAVO** (Bra)	(29) 23.07.87	2013 / Bayern Munich
30	Paul **SEGUIN**	(21) 29.03.95	
8	**VIERINHA** (Por)	(30) 24.01.86	2012 / PAOK (Gre)
25	Josip **BREKALO** (Cro)	(18) 23.06.98	2016 / Dinamo Zagreb (Cro)
16	Bruno **HENRIQUE** (Bra)	(25) 30.12.90	2015 / Goias (Bra)
33	Mario **GOMEZ**	(31) 10.07.85	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita)
17	Borja **MAYORAL** (Spa)	(19) 05.04.97	2016 / R Madrid (Spa) loan

● **Dieter HECKING** (52) 12.09.64 2012 / Nuremberg

(age as of 07.10.16)

TOMORROW'S STARS TODAY

Talentscout

DEFENSIVE MIDFIELDERS

WORDS: Nick Bidwell

Matias KRANEVITTER

Age 23 (21.05.93), Sevilla (Spa, on loan from Atletico Madrid) & Argentina

In a sentence
On a single-season deal with Sevilla, he is the latest in a long line of Argentinian defensive midfielders, a roll call of number fives that includes Reinaldo Merlo, Americo Gallego, Fernando Redondo and Javier Mascherano.

What they say
Uruguayan legend Enzo Francescoli, who was general manager at River Plate: "He's the sort of player who is thinking about winning the ball even when his team are in possession. On the pitch he's calm and very intelligent. He's played in a lot of high-pressure games for River Plate and always performs with total composure and great maturity."
Journalist Eduardo Jose Ustaritz: "When he fractured his foot [in September 2014] it was the heart of River Plate which was broken. A heart of barely 21 years but a soul aged 50."

> "He's the sort of player who is thinking about winning the ball even when his team are in possession"
> Enzo Francescoli

The story so far
A native of the Tucaman region in northern Argentina, he was offered a place in River Plate's academy at the age of 14 and later helped the club's under-20 side to claim the South American title before being promoted to the first-team squad. He made his senior debut against Lanus in December 2012 and soon became a key figure for *Los Millonarios*, helping them to the Argentinian championship and Sudamericana Cup in 2014, followed by the Libertadores Cup the year after. He won his first full cap in September 2015, in a 7-0 friendly thrashing of Bolivia in Texas, and at this summer's Copa America he appeared in three of Argentina's games. He joined Atletico Madrid mid-way through last season in a reported €8million deal.

The next step
Although Atletico cannot guarantee him a starting spot at present, they very much regard Kranevitter as the long-term replacement for skipper and central midfield pivot Gabi. They are banking on the Argentinian building up his Liga experience at Sevilla and returning to the Estadio Vicente Calderon a better all-round player.

Big stage...taking on Bolivia in the Copa

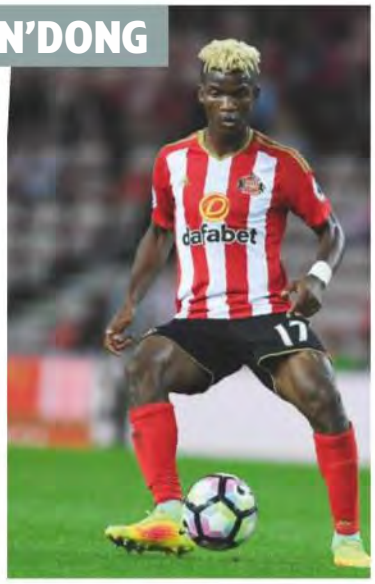
Strengths
Foremost among his assets are his range of pass and vision, and his ability to initiate quick attacks. In tight spots, he makes good snap decisions and is generally a master of transitions. No slouch either at breaking up play, displaying typical Argentinian "*grinta*" – that mixture of aggression, tenacity and will-to-win.

Weaknesses
Positionally he is not quite the finished article, nor is he the quickest.

3 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT KRANEVITTER

- Growing up, he was a keen golfer and his uncle is PGA Tour golf pro Andres Romero.
- The eldest of six boys, at one point, money was so tight that the family could not afford to pay for the youngster's football licence.
- During his time in the River Plate youth team, he played alongside attacking midfielder Manuel Lanzini, who is now at West Ham United, and Basle centre-back Eder Alvarez Balanta.

Didier N'DONG



Age 22 (17.06.94), Sunderland (Eng) & Gabon
Gabon international who became the Wearsiders' most expensive signing of all-time, joining in a £13.6million deal from Ligue 1 outfit Lorient. Also able to fill in at right-back, his rugged approach made him a marked man in France so will have to tread carefully. A Tunisian champion with CS Sfaxien in 2013.

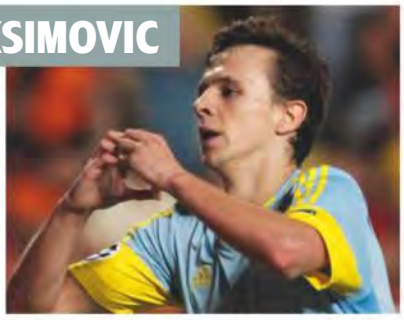
Renato NETO

Age 25 (27.09.91), Gent (Blg) & Brazil
A key figure in his club's first-ever Belgian league title in 2014-15, he does a fine job with or without the ball, offering bite in the tackle, aerial ability and a large dash of attacking thrust. From the Bahia region of northern Brazil, he came through Sporting's prolific youth ranks in Lisbon and has also played for Cercle Brugge and Hungarian side Videoton.

Jorrit HENDRIX

Age 21 (06.02.95), PSV & Holland
During his formative years at the PSV academy he was deployed in central defence. However, he was to prove far more valuable after being switched to a midfield-holding role, carving out a niche for himself with his all-action style and excellent left-foot distribution. Won his first full cap in a friendly against Greece in August.

Nemanja MAKSIMOVIC



Age 21 (26.01.95), Astana (Kaz) & Serbia
An Under-20 World Cup winner last year, he very much is the Kazakh champions' main man. The individual in charge of the team's fluidity and tempo, he is tipped for a move to the West in the next transfer window.

Stefano SENSI

Age 21 (05.08.95), Sassuolo & Italy
Deep-lying playmaker thought to be on the watch-list of most of the Serie A big boys. Often compared to Paris Saint-Germain's maestro Marco Verratti, there is much common ground with the shared diminutive stature, subtle prompting and accuracy with either foot. Outstanding in Serie B last term for Cesena, he completed a move to top-flight Sassuolo this summer.

Tiemoue BAKAYOKO

Age 22 (17.08.94), Monaco & France
Key in his side's fine start to the season – they beat Paris Saint-Germain in Ligue 1 and saw off Fenerbahce and Villarreal in Champions League qualifiers – the Parisian displays ball-winning flair, dynamism and neat distribution.

Andre HORTA

Age 19 (07.11.96), Benfica & Portugal
Although an attacking midfielder by trade, he has been in positional retreat for a while, combining tenacity and invention with lots of raking balls to the flanks. A former Benfica youth-teamer, he was released at 16 and relaunched his career at Vitoria Setubal to earn a second chance at the Estadio da Luz. He is the younger brother of Portugal winger Ricardo Horta.

Thiago MENDES

Age 24 (15.03.92), Sao Paulo & Brazil
Effervescent engine-room operative who made his name in the Brazilian top flight with Goias, before signing a five-year deal in December 2014 with Sao Paulo, the club he had supported as a boy.

ATALANTA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	30 Davide **BASSI**	(31) 12.04.85	2015 / Empoli
●	1 Etrit **BERISHA** (Alb)	(27) 10.03.89	2016 / Lazio loan
●	47 Stefano **MAZZINI**	(17) 06.12.98	
●	57 Marco **SPORTIELLO**	(24) 10.05.92	
●	13 Mattia **CALDARA**	(22) 05.05.94	
●	24 Andrea **CONTI**	(22) 02.03.94	
●	93 Boukary **DRAME** (Sen)	(31) 22.07.85	2014 / Chievo
●	25 Abdoulay **KONKO** (Fra)	(32) 09.03.84	2016 / Lazio
●	5 Andrea **MASIELLO**	(30) 05.02.86	2011 / Bari
●	2 Guglielmo **STENDARDO**	(35) 06.05.81	2012 / Lazio
●	23 Emanuele **SUAGHER**	(23) 26.11.92	
●	3 Rafael **TOLOI** (Bra)	(26) 10.10.90	2015 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
●	6 Ervin **ZUKANOVIC** (Bos)	(29) 11.02.87	2016 / Roma loan
●	52 Bryan **CABEZAS** (Ecu)	(19) 20.03.97	2016 / Ind del Valle (Ecu)
●	– Christian **CAPONE**	(17) 28.04.99	
●	17 Carlos **CARMONA** (Chl)	(29) 21.02.87	2010 / Reggina
●	7 Marco **D'ALESSANDRO**	(25) 17.02.91	2014 / Roma
●	11 Remo **FREULER** (Swi)	(24) 15.04.92	2016 / Lucerne (Swi)
●	4 Roberto **GAGLIARDINI**	(22) 07.04.94	
●	10 Alejandro **GOMEZ** (Arg)	(28) 15.02.88	2014 / Met Kharkiv (Ukr)
●	88 Alberto **GRASSI**	(21) 07.03.95	2016 / Napoli
●	19 Franck **KESSIE** (IvC)	(19) 19.12.96	2015 / Stella Club (IvC)
●	27 Jasmin **KURTIC** (Sln)	(27) 10.01.89	2015 / Sassuolo
●	8 Giulio **MIGLIACCIO**	(35) 23.06.81	2013 / Palermo
●	77 Cristian **RAIMONDI**	(35) 30.04.81	2010 / Livorno
●	37 Leonardo **SPINAZZOLA**	(23) 25.03.93	2016 / Juventus loan
●	– Emmanuel Latte **LATH** (IvC)	(17) 01.01.99	
●	43 Alberto **PALOSCHI**	(26) 04.01.90	2016 / Swansea City (Eng)
●	9 Aleksandar **PESIC** (Ser)	(24) 21.05.92	2016 / Toulouse loan
●	29 Andrea **PETAGNA**	(21) 30.06.95	2016 / Milan
●	51 Mauricio **PINILLA** (Chl)	(32) 04.02.84	2015 / Genoa
●	**Gian Piero GASPERINI**	(58) 26.01.58	2016 / Genoa

Race...Crotone's Andrea Mazzarani (left) and Cristian Raimondi of Atalanta

BOLOGNA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	1 Angelo **DA COSTA** (Bra)	(32) 12.11.83	2015 / Sampdoria
●	23 Alfred **GOMIS**	(23) 05.09.93	2016 / Torino loan
●	83 Antonio **MIRANTE**	(33) 08.07.83	2015 / Parma
●	97 Mouhamadou **SARR** (Sen)	(19) 05.01.97	
●	24 Alex **FERRARI**	(22) 01.07.94	
●	28 Daniele **GASTALDELLO**	(33) 25.06.83	2015 / Sampdoria
●	18 Filip **HELANDER** (Swe)	(23) 22.04.93	2016 / Verona
●	4 Emil **KRAFTH** (Swe)	(22) 02.08.94	2015 / Helsingborgs (Swe)
●	20 Domenico **MAIETTA**	(34) 03.08.82	2014 / Verona
●	25 Adam **MASINA** (Mor)	(22) 02.01.94	
●	15 Ibrahima **MBAYE** (Sen)	(21) 19.11.94	2015 / Internazionale
●	3 Archimede **MORLEO**	(33) 26.09.83	2010 / Crotone
●	2 Marios **OIKONOMOU** (Gre)	(24) 06.10.92	2014 / Cagliari
●	35 Vasilis **TOROSIDIS** (Gre)	(31) 10.06.85	2016 / Roma
●	17 Godfred **DONSAH** (Gha)	(20) 07.06.96	2015 / Cagliari
●	31 Blerim **DZEMAILI** (Swi)	(30) 12.04.86	2016 / Galatasaray (Tur)
●	11 Ladislav **KREJCI** (CzR)	(24) 05.07.92	2016 / Sp Prague (CzR)
●	16 Adam **NAGY** (Hun)	(21) 17.06.95	2016 / Ferencvaros (Hun)
●	5 Erick **PULGAR** (Chl)	(22) 15.01.94	2015 / Uni Catolica (Chl)
●	22 Luca **RIZZO**	(24) 24.04.92	2016 / Sampdoria
●	8 Saphir **TAIDER** (Alg)	(24) 29.02.92	2015 / Internazionale
●	6 Federico **VIVIANI**	(24) 24.03.92	2016 / Verona loan
●	99 Robert **ACQUAFRESCA**	(29) 11.09.87	2012 / Genoa
●	10 Mattia **DESTRO**	(25) 20.03.91	2015 / Roma
●	14 Federico **DI FRANCESCO**	(22) 14.06.94	2016 / Lanciano
●	26 Sergio **FLOCCARI**	(34) 12.11.81	2016 / Sassuolo
●	7 Anthony **MOUNIER** (Fra)	(29) 27.09.87	2015 / Montpellier (Fra)
●	19 Umar **SADIQ** (Nga)	(19) 02.02.97	2016 / Roma loan
●	9 Simone **VERDI**	(24) 12.07.92	2016 / Milan
●	**Roberto DONADONI**	(53) 09.09.63	2015 / Parma

CAGLIARI

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
●	13 Roberto **COLOMBO**	(41) 24.08.75	2015 / Napoli
●	1 **RAFAEL** (Bra)	(34) 03.03.82	2016 / Verona
●	30 Marco **STORARI**	(39) 07.01.77	2015 / Juventus
●	2 Bruno **ALVES** (Por)	(34) 27.11.81	2016 / Fenerbahce (Tur)
●	26 Luca **BITTANTE**	(23) 14.08.93	2016 / Empoli
●	24 Marco **CAPUANO**	(24) 14.10.91	2015 / Pescara
●	23 Luca **CEPPITELLI**	(26) 08.11.89	2014 / Parma
●	3 Mauricio **ISLA** (Chl)	(28) 12.06.88	2016 / Juventus
●	29 Nicola **MURRU**	(21) 16.12.94	
●	19 Fabio **PISACANE**	(30) 28.01.86	2015 / Avellino
●	35 Bartosz **SALAMON** (Pol)	(25) 01.05.91	2015 / Sampdoria
●	18 Nicolo **BARELLA**	(19) 07.02.97	
●	4 Daniele **DESSENA**	(29) 10.05.87	2012 / Sampdoria
●	8 Davide **DI GENNARO**	(28) 16.06.88	2015 / Palermo
●	21 Artur **IONITA** (Mol)	(26) 17.08.90	2016 / Verona
●	10 **JOAO PEDRO** (Bra)	(24) 09.03.92	2014 / Estoril (Por)
●	16 Gianni **MUNARI**	(33) 24.06.83	2015 / Parma
●	20 Simone **PADOIN**	(32) 18.03.84	2016 / Juventus
●	77 Panagiotis **TACHTSIDIS** (Gre)	(25) 15.02.91	2016 / Torino loan
●	22 Marco **BORRIELLO**	(34) 18.06.82	2016 / Atalanta
●	17 Diego **FARIAS** (Bra)	(26) 10.05.90	2015 / Chievo
●	32 Niccolo **GIANNETTI**	(25) 12.05.91	2015 / Spezia
●	9 Federico **MELCHIORRI**	(29) 06.01.87	2015 / Pescara
●	25 Marco **SAU**	(28) 03.11.87	2011 / Foggia
●	**Massimo RASTELLI**	(47) 27.12.68	2015 / Avellino

CHIEVO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	32 Walter **BRESSAN**	(35) 26.01.81	2015 / Cesena
Goalkeepers	90 Andrea **SECULIN**	(26) 14.07.90	2013 / Fiorentina
Goalkeepers	70 Stefano **SORRENTINO**	(37) 28.03.79	2016 / Palermo
Defenders	29 Fabrizio **CACCIATORE**	(30) 08.10.86	2015 / Sampdoria
Defenders	12 Bostjan **CESAR** (Sln)	(34) 09.07.82	2010 / Grenoble (Fra)
Defenders	36 Filippo **COSTA**	(21) 21.05.95	
Defenders	3 Dario **DAINELLI**	(37) 09.06.79	2012 / Genoa
Defenders	21 Nicolas **FREY** (Fra)	(32) 06.03.84	2008 / Modena
Defenders	5 Alessandro **GAMBERINI**	(35) 27.08.81	2014 / Napoli
Defenders	18 Massimo **GOBBI**	(35) 31.10.80	2015 / Parma
Defenders	20 Gennaro **SARDO**	(37) 08.05.79	2010 / Catania
Defenders	2 Nicolas **SPOLLI** (Arg)	(33) 20.02.83	2016 / Carpi
Defenders	28 Samuel **BASTIEN** (Blg)	(20) 26.09.96	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
Midfielders	23 Valter **BIRSA** (Sln)	(30) 07.08.86	2015 / Milan
Midfielders	19 Lucas **CASTRO** (Arg)	(27) 09.04.89	2015 / Catania
Midfielders	1 Jonathan **DE GUZMAN** (Hol)	(29) 13.09.87	2016 / Napoli loan
Midfielders	56 Perparim **HETEMAJ** (Fin)	(29) 12.12.86	2011 / Brescia
Midfielders	13 Mariano **IZCO** (Arg)	(33) 13.03.83	2014 / Catania
Midfielders	95 Lamin **JALLOW** (Gam)	(22) 22.07.94	2014 / Real Banjul (Gam)
Midfielders	8 Ivan **RADOVANOVIC** (Ser)	(28) 29.08.88	2013 / Atalanta
Midfielders	4 Nicola **RIGONI**	(25) 12.11.90	2012 / Vicenza
Forwards	83 Antonio **FLORO FLORES**	(33) 18.06.83	2016 / Sassuolo
Forwards	45 Roberto **INGLESE**	(24) 12.11.91	2010 / Pescara
Forwards	69 Riccardo **MEGGIORINI**	(31) 04.09.85	2014 / Torino
Forwards	27 Vittorio **PARIGINI**	(20) 25.03.96	2016 / Torino
Forwards	31 Sergio **PELLISSIER**	(37) 12.04.79	2000 / Torino
Coach	**Rolando MARAN**	(53) 14.07.63	2014 / Catania

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **500-1**

CROTONE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	95 Valentin **COJOCARU** (Rom)	(20) 01.10.95	2016 / Steaua (Rom) loan
Goalkeepers	1 Alex **CORDAZ**	(33) 01.01.83	2015 / Parma
Goalkeepers	5 Marco **FESTA**	(24) 06.06.92	2015 / Mantova
Goalkeepers	33 Aniello **VISCOVO**	(17) 21.06.99	
Defenders	17 Federico **CECCHERINI**	(24) 11.05.92	2016 / Livorno
Defenders	3 **CLAITON** (Bra)	(32) 07.09.84	2014 / Chievo
Defenders	21 Giuseppe **CUOMO**	(18) 02.02.98	
Defenders	23 Noe **DUSSENNE** (Blg)	(24) 07.04.92	2016 / Mouscron (Blg)
Defenders	13 Gianmarco **FERRARI**	(24) 15.05.92	2016 / Sassuolo loan
Defenders	87 Bruno **MARTELLA**	(24) 14.08.92	2014 / Sampdoria
Defenders	15 Djamel **MESBAH** (Alg)	(31) 09.10.84	2016 / Sampdoria
Defenders	98 Manuel **NICOLETTI**	(17) 09.12.98	
Defenders	22 Aleandro **ROSI**	(29) 17.05.87	2016 / Genoa loan
Defenders	31 Mario **SAMPIRISI**	(23) 31.10.92	2016 / Vicenza
Midfielders	18 Andrea **BARBERIS**	(22) 11.12.93	2015 / Varese
Midfielders	28 Leonardo **CAPEZZI**	(21) 28.03.95	2016 / Sampdoria
Midfielders	8 Lorenzo **CRISETIG**	(23) 20.01.93	2016 / Bologna loan
Midfielders	77 Nicolo **FAZZI**	(21) 02.03.95	2016 / Fiorentina
Midfielders	14 Eddy **GNAHORE** (Fra)	(22) 14.11.93	2016 / Napoli loan
Midfielders	88 Andrea **MAZZARANI**	(26) 06.11.89	2016 / Modena
Midfielders	6 Marcus **ROHDEN** (Swe)	(25) 11.05.91	2016 / Elfsborg (Swe)
Midfielders	20 Aniello **SALZANO**	(25) 20.07.91	2014 / San Miniato
Midfielders	12 Adrian **STOIAN** (Rom)	(25) 11.02.91	2015 / Chievo
Midfielders	24 Aleksander **TONEV** (Bul)	(26) 03.02.90	2016 / Frosinone
Forwards	10 Pietro **DE GIORGIO**	(33) 16.02.83	2010 / Empoli
Forwards	11 Diego **FALCINELLI**	(25) 26.06.91	2016 / Sassuolo loan
Forwards	9 Andrea **NALINI**	(26) 20.06.90	2016 / Salernitana
Forwards	99 Simy **NWANKWO** (Nga)	(24) 07.05.92	2016 / Gil Vicente (Por)
Forwards	7 Raffaele **PALLADINO**	(32) 17.04.84	2015 / Parma
Forwards	29 Marcello **TROTTA**	(23) 29.09.92	2016 / Sassuolo loan
Coach	**Davide NICOLA**	(43) 05.03.73	2016 / Bari

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **4,500-1**

EMPOLI

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	23 Alberto **PELAGOTTI**	(27) 09.03.89	
Goalkeepers	1 Maurizio **PUGLIESI**	(39) 21.12.76	2014 / Pisa
Goalkeepers	28 Lukasz **SKORUPSKI** (Pol)	(25) 05.05.91	2016 / Roma loan
Defenders	19 Federico **BARBA**	(23) 01.09.93	2013 / Roma
Defenders	6 Giuseppe **BELLUSCI**	(27) 21.08.89	2016 / Leeds (Eng) loan
Defenders	24 Uros **COSIC** (Ser)	(23) 24.10.92	2015 / Pescara
Defenders	15 Andrea **COSTA**	(30) 01.02.86	2015 / Parma
Defenders	4 Federico **DIMARCO**	(18) 10.11.97	2016 / Inter loan
Defenders	2 Vincent **LAURINI** (Fra)	(27) 10.06.89	2012 / Carpi
Defenders	21 Manuel **PASQUAL**	(34) 13.03.82	2016 / Fiorentina
Defenders	13 Frederic **VESELI** (Alb)	(23) 20.11.92	2016 / Lugano (Swi)
Defenders	3 Marco **ZAMBELLI**	(31) 22.08.85	2015 / Brescia
Midfielders	34 Marcel **BUCHEL** (Aut)	(25) 18.03.91	2016 / Juventus
Midfielders	11 Daniele **CROCE**	(34) 09.09.82	2012 / Sorrento
Midfielders	8 Assane **EL HADJI** (Sen)	(19) 20.09.97	
Midfielders	33 Rade **KRUNIC** (Bos)	(23) 07.10.93	2015 / Borac Cacak (Ser)
Midfielders	17 Raffaele **MAIELLO**	(25) 10.07.91	2015 / Napoli
Midfielders	31 **MATHEUS** (Bra)	(18) 25.02.98	2016 / Corinthians (Bra)
Midfielders	5 Jose **MAURI**	(20) 16.05.96	2016 / Milan loan
Midfielders	10 Riccardo **SAPONARA**	(24) 21.12.91	2015 / Milan
Midfielders	88 Andres **TELLO** (Col)	(20) 06.09.96	2016 / Juventus loan
Forwards	18 Alberto **GILARDINO**	(34) 05.07.82	2016 / Palermo
Forwards	7 Massimo **MACCARONE**	(37) 06.09.79	2012 / Sampdoria
Forwards	89 Guido **MARILUNGO**	(27) 09.08.89	2016 / Atalanta
Forwards	9 Levan **MCHEDLIDZE** (Geo)	(26) 24.03.90	2007 / Dila Gori (Geo)
Forwards	20 Manuel **PUCCIARELLI**	(25) 17.06.91	
Coach	**Giovanni MARTUSCIELLO**	(45) 19.08.71	2016 / Empoli assistant

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **1,000-1**

FIORENTINA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
Goalkeepers	97 Bartlomiej **DRAGOWSKI** (Pol)	(19) 19.08.97	2016 / Jagiellonia (Pol)
Goalkeepers	1 Luca **LEZZERINI**	(21) 24.03.95	
Goalkeepers	23 Giacomo **SATALINO**	(17) 25.05.99	
Defenders	12 Ciprian **TATARUSANU** (Rom)	(30) 09.02.86	2014 / Steaua (Rom)
Defenders	13 Davide **ASTORI**	(29) 07.01.87	2015 / Cagliari
Defenders	4 Sebastian **DE MAIO**	(29) 05.03.87	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg) loan
Defenders	17 Kevin **DIKS** (Hol)	(20) 06.10.96	2016 / Vitesse (Hol)
Defenders	31 Hrvoje **MILIC** (Cro)	(27) 10.05.89	2016 / Hajduk Split (Cro)
Defenders	15 Maximiliano **OLIVERA** (Uru)	(24) 05.03.92	2016 / Penarol (Uru) loan
Defenders	2 Gonzalo **RODRIGUEZ** (Arg)	(32) 10.04.84	2012 / Villarreal (Spa)
Defenders	18 Carlos **SALCEDO** (Mex)	(23) 29.09.93	2016 / Guadalajara (Mex) loan
Defenders	40 Nenad **TOMOVIC** (Ser)	(29) 30.08.87	2012 / Genoa
Defenders	5 Milan **BADELJ** (Cro)	(27) 25.02.89	2014 / Hamburg (Ger)
Defenders	19 Sebastian **CRISTOFORO** (Uru)	(23) 23.08.93	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
Defenders	24 Ianis **HAGI** (Rom)	(17) 22.10.98	2016 / Viitorul (Rom)
Defenders	72 Josip **ILICIC** (Sln)	(28) 29.01.88	2013 / Palermo
Defenders	6 Carlos **SANCHEZ** (Col)	(30) 06.02.86	2016 / A Villa (Eng) loan
Defenders	20 Borja **VALERO** (Spa)	(31) 12.01.85	2012 / Villarreal (Spa)
Defenders	8 Matias **VECINO** (Uru)	(25) 24.08.91	2013 / Nacional (Uru)
Midfielders	30 Khouma **BABACAR** (Sen)	(23) 17.03.93	
Midfielders	10 Federico **BERNARDESCHI**	(22) 16.02.94	
Midfielders	25 Federico **CHIESA**	(18) 25.10.97	
Midfielders	9 Nikola **KALINIC** (Cro)	(28) 05.01.88	2015 / Dnipro (Ukr)
Forwards	11 Hernan **TOLEDO** (Arg)	(20) 17.01.96	2016 / Maldonado (Uru) loan
Forwards	16 Cristian **TELLO** (Spa)	(25) 19.08.91	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
Forwards	7 Mauro **ZARATE** (Arg)	(29) 18.03.87	2016 / West Ham (Eng)
Coach	**Paulo SOUSA** (Por)	(46) 30.08.70	2015 / Basle (Swi)

STATS
League wins: 2
Cup wins: 6
Title odds: **66-1**

GENOA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
GK	58 Diego **FACCIOLI**	(18) 08.07.98	
GK	23 Eugenio **LAMANNA**	(27) 07.08.89	2008 / Siena
GK	1 Mattia **PERIN**	(23) 10.11.92	
GK	38 Lukas **ZIMA** (CzR)	(22) 09.01.94	
DF	– Davide **BIRASCHI**	(22) 02.07.94	2016 / Avellino
DF	28 Davide **BRIVIO**	(28) 17.03.88	2016 / Atalanta
DF	8 Nicolas **BURDISSO** (Arg)	(35) 12.04.81	2014 / Roma
DF	20 Issa **CISSOKHO** (Sen)	(31) 23.02.85	2015 / Nantes (Fra)
DF	29 Riccardo **FIAMOZZI**	(23) 18.05.93	2015 / Pescara
DF	3 Santiago **GENTILETTI** (Arg)	(31) 09.01.85	2016 / Lazio
DF	5 Armando **IZZO**	(24) 02.03.92	2014 / Avellino
DF	24 Ezequiel **MUNOZ** (Arg)	(26) 08.10.90	2015 / Palermo
DF	21 Lucas **ORBAN** (Arg)	(27) 03.02.89	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
MF	4 Isaac **COFIE** (Gha)	(25) 20.09.91	2013 / Chievo
MF	2 **EDENILSON** (Bra)	(26) 19.12.89	2016 / Udinese loan
MF	13 Serge **GAKPE** (Tog)	(29) 07.05.87	2015 / Nantes (Fra)
MF	93 Diego **LAXALT** (Uru)	(23) 07.02.93	2016 / Internazionale
MF	22 Darko **LAZOVIC** (Ser)	(26) 15.09.90	2015 / Red Star (Ser)
MF	– Nikola **NINKOVIC** (Ser)	(21) 19.12.94	2016 / Partizan (Ser)
MF	10 Olivier **NTCHAM** (Fra)	(20) 09.02.96	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
MF	11 Lucas **OCAMPOS** (Arg)	(22) 11.07.94	2016 / Marseille (Fra) loan
MF	30 Luca **RIGONI**	(31) 07.12.84	2016 / Palermo
MF	88 Tomas **RINCON** (Ven)	(28) 13.01.88	2014 / Hamburg (Ger)
MF	44 Miguel **VELOSO** (Por)	(30) 11.05.86	2016 / Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)
FW	27 Goran **PANDEV** (Mac)	(33) 27.07.83	2015 / Galatasaray (Tur)
FW	19 Leonardo **PAVOLETTI**	(27) 26.11.88	2015 / Sassuolo
FW	9 Giovanni **SIMEONE** (Arg)	(21) 05.07.95	2016 / River Plate (Arg)

● **Ivan JURIC** (Cro) (41) 25.08.75 2016 / Crotone

Forward thinking...Tomas Rincon of Genoa

INTERNAZIONALE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
GK	46 Tommaso **BERNI**	(33) 06.03.83	2014 / Torino
GK	30 Juan Pablo **CARRIZO** (Arg)	(32) 06.05.84	2013 / Lazio
GK	1 Samir **HANDANOVIC** (Sln)	(32) 14.07.84	2012 / Udinese
DF	2 Marco **ANDREOLLI**	(30) 10.06.86	2013 / Chievo
DF	15 Cristian **ANSALDI** (Arg)	(30) 20.09.86	2016 / Genoa
DF	33 Danilo **D'AMBROSIO**	(28) 09.09.88	2014 / Torino
DF	95 Senna **MIANGUE** (Blg)	(19) 05.02.97	2014 / Beerschot (Blg)
DF	25 **MIRANDA** (Bra)	(32) 07.09.84	2015 / At Madrid (Spa)
DF	24 Jeison **MURILLO** (Col)	(24) 27.05.92	2015 / Granada (Spa)
DF	55 Yuto **NAGATOMO** (Jap)	(30) 12.09.86	2011 / Cesena
DF	13 Andrea **RANOCCHIA**	(28) 16.02.88	2011 / Genoa
DF	21 Davide **SANTON**	(25) 02.01.91	2015 / Newcastle U (Eng)
DF	94 Guy **YAO** (IvC)	(20) 20.01.96	2015 / Parma
MF	19 Ever **BANEGA** (Arg)	(28) 29.06.88	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
MF	11 Jonathan **BIABIANY** (Fra)	(28) 28.04.88	2015 / Parma
MF	77 Marcelo **BROZOVIC** (Cro)	(23) 16.11.92	2016 / Din Zagreb (Cro)
MF	87 Antonio **CANDREVA**	(29) 28.02.87	2016 / Lazio
MF	3 **FELIPE MELO** (Bra)	(33) 26.08.83	2015 / Galatasaray (Tur)
MF	27 Assane **GNOUKOURI** (IvC)	(20) 28.09.96	2014 / AltoVicentino
MF	6 **JOAO MARIO** (Por)	(23) 19.01.93	2016 / Sporting (Por)
MF	7 Geoffrey **KONDOGBIA** (Fra)	(23) 25.04.93	2015 / Monaco (Fra)
MF	17 Gary **MEDEL** (Chl)	(29) 03.08.87	2014 / Cardiff City (Eng)
MF	44 Ivan **PERISIC** (Cro)	(27) 02.02.89	2015 / Wolfsburg (Ger)
FW	23 **EDER** (Ita)	(29) 15.11.86	2016 / Sampdoria loan
FW	96 **GABRIEL** (Bra)	(20) 30.08.96	2016 / Santos (Bra)
FW	9 Mauro **ICARDI** (Arg)	(23) 19.02.93	2013 / Sampdoria
FW	10 Stevan **JOVETIC** (Mne)	(26) 02.11.89	2015 / Man City (Eng)
FW	8 Rodrigo **PALACIO** (Arg)	(34) 05.02.82	2012 / Genoa

● **Frank DE BOER** (Hol) (46) 15.05.70 2016 / Ajax (Hol)

JUVENTUS

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
GK	32 Emil **AUDERO**	(19) 18.01.97	
GK	1 Gianluigi **BUFFON**	(38) 28.01.78	2001 / Parma
GK	25 **NETO** (Bra)	(27) 19.07.89	2015 / Fiorentina
DF	12 **ALEX SANDRO** (Bra)	(25) 26.01.91	2015 / Porto (Por)
DF	23 **DANI ALVES** (Bra)	(33) 06.05.83	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
DF	15 Andrea **BARZAGLI**	(35) 08.05.81	2011 / Wolfsburg (Ger)
DF	4 Mehdi **BENATIA** (Mor)	(29) 17.04.87	2016 / Bayern (Ger) loan
DF	19 Leonardo **BONUCCI**	(29) 01.05.87	2010 / Bari
DF	3 Giorgio **CHIELLINI**	(32) 14.08.84	2005 / Fiorentina
DF	19 Paolo **DE CEGLIE**	(30) 17.09.86	
DF	33 Patrice **EVRA** (Bra)	(35) 15.05.81	2014 / Man United (Eng)
DF	26 Stephan **LICHTSTEINER** (Swi)	(32) 16.01.84	2011 / Lazio
DF	14 Federico **MATTIELLO**	(21) 04.07.95	
DF	24 Daniele **RUGANI**	(22) 29.07.94	2015 / Empoli
MF	22 Kwadwo **ASAMOAH** (Gha)	(27) 09.12.88	2012 / Udinese
MF	7 Juan **CUADRADO** (Col)	(28) 26.05.88	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
MF	8 Claudio **MARCHISIO**	(30) 19.01.86	
MF	10 **HERNANES** (Bra)	(31) 29.05.85	2015 / Internazionale
MF	6 Sami **KHEDIRA** (Ger)	(29) 04.04.87	2015 / Real Madrid (Spa)
MF	18 Mario **LEMINA** (Gab)	(23) 01.09.93	2015 / Marseille (Fra)
MF	– Rolando **MANDRAGORA**	(19) 29.06.97	2016 / Genoa
MF	20 Marko **PJACA** (Cro)	(21) 06.05.95	2016 / Din Zagreb (Cro)
MF	5 Miralem **PJANIC** (Bos)	(26) 02.04.90	2016 / Roma
MF	27 Stefano **STURARO**	(23) 09.03.93	2014 / Genoa
FW	21 Paulo **DYBALA** (Arg)	(22) 15.11.93	2015 / Palermo
FW	9 Gonzalo **HIGUAIN** (Arg)	(28) 10.12.87	2016 / Napoli
FW	17 Mario **MANDZUKIC** (Cro)	(30) 21.05.86	2015 / At Madrid (Spa)

● **Massimiliano ALLEGRI** (49) 11.08.67 2014 / Milan

LAZIO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
22	Federico **MARCHETTI**	(33) 07.02.83	2011 / Cagliari
1	Thomas **STRAKOSHA** (Alb)	(21) 19.03.95	2012 / Panionios (Gre)
55	Ivan **VARGIC** (Cro)	(29) 15.03.87	2016 / Rijeka (Cro)
15	**BASTOS** (Ang)	(25) 23.11.91	2016 / Rostov (Rus)
3	Stefan **DE VRIJ** (Hol)	(24) 05.02.92	2014 / Feyenoord (Hol)
2	Wesley **HOEDT** (Hol)	(22) 06.03.94	2015 / AZ (Hol)
6	Jordan **LUKAKU** (Blg)	(22) 25.07.94	2016 / Oostende (Blg)
4	**PATRIC** (Spa)	(23) 17.04.93	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
44	Franjo **PRCE** (Cro)	(20) 07.01.96	2014 / Hajduk Split (Cro)
26	Stefan **RADU** (Rom)	(29) 22.10.86	2008 / Din Bucharest (Rom)
28	**VINICIUS** (Bra)	(23) 07.03.93	2013 / Cruzeiro (Bra)
13	**WALLACE** (Bra)	(21) 14.10.94	2016 / Braga (Por)
18	Luis **ALBERTO** (Spa)	(24) 28.09.92	2016 / Liverpool (Eng)
10	Felipe **ANDERSON** (Bra)	(23) 15.04.93	2013 / Santos (Bra
8	Dusan **BASTA** (Ser)	(32) 18.08.84	2014 / Red Star (Ser)
20	Lucas **BIGLIA** (Arg)	(30) 30.01.86	2013 / Anderlecht (Blg)
5	Danilo **CATALDI**	(22) 06.08.94	
23	Moritz **LEITNER** (Ger)	(23) 08.12.92	2016 / Dortmund (Ger)
19	Senad **LULIC** (Bos)	(30) 18.01.86	2011 / Young Boys (Swi)
21	Sergej **MILINKOVIC-SAVIC** (Ser)	(21) 27.02.95	2015 / Genk (Blg)
27	Joseph **MINALA** (Cam)	(20) 24.08.96	
11	Ravel **MORRISON** (Eng)	(23) 02.02.93	2015 / West Ham (Eng)
96	Alessandro **MURGIA**	(20) 09.08.96	
16	Marco **PAROLO**	(31) 25.01.85	2014 / Parma
9	Filip **DJORDJEVIC** (Ser)	(29) 28.09.87	2014 / Nantes (Fra)
17	Ciro **IMMOBILE**	(26) 20.02.90	2016 / Sevilla (Spa)
14	Balde Diao **KEITA** (Sen)	(21) 08.03.95	2013 / Barcelona (Spa)
7	Ricardo **KISHNA** (Hol)	(21) 04.01.95	2015 / Ajax (Hol)
25	Cristiano **LOMBARDI**	(21) 19.08.95	
71	Mamadou **TOUNKARA** (Sen)	(20) 19.01.96	2012 / Barcelona (Spa)
●	**Simone INZAGHI**	(40) 05.04.76	2010 /Lazio youth coach

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
2	6

Title odds **100-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
18	5

Title odds **50-1**

MILAN

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
99	Gianluigi **DONNARUMMA**	(17) 25.02.99	
1	**GABRIEL** (Bra)	(24) 27.09.92	2014 / Cruzeiro (Bra)
35	Alessandro **PLIZZARI**	(16) 12.03.00	
20	Ignazio **ABATE**	(29) 12.11.86	2009 / Torino
31	Luca **ANTONELLI**	(29) 11.02.87	2015 / Genoa
96	Davide **CALABRIA**	(19) 06.12.96	
2	Mattia **DE SCIGLIO**	(23) 20.10.92	
4	Rodrigo **ELY** (Bra)	(22) 03.11.93	2015 / Avellino
15	Gustavo **GOMEZ** (Par)	(23) 06.06.93	2016 / Lanus (Arg)
29	Gabriel **PALETTA**	(30) 15.02.86	2015 / Parma
13	Alessio **ROMAGNOLI**	(21) 12.01.95	2015 / Roma
21	Leonel **VANGIONI** (Arg)	(29) 05.05.87	2016 / River Plate (Arg)
17	Cristian **ZAPATA** (Col)	(30) 30.09.86	2013 / Villarreal (Spa)
91	Andrea **BERTOLACCI**	(25) 11.01.91	2015 / Roma
5	Giacomo **BONAVENTURA**	(27) 22.08.89	2014 / Atalanta
14	Matias **FERNANDEZ** (Chl)	(30) 15.05.86	2016 / Fiorentina loan
10	Keisuke **HONDA** (Jap)	(30) 13.06.86	2014 / CSKA (Rus)
33	Juraj **KUCKA** (Slk)	(29) 26.02.87	2015 / Genoa
73	Manuel **LOCATELLI**	(18) 08.01.98	
18	Riccardo **MONTOLIVO**	(31) 18.01.85	2012 / Fiorentina
80	Mario **PASALIC** (Cro)	(21) 09.02.95	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
16	Andrea **POLI**	(27) 29.09.89	2013 / Sampdoria
23	Jose **SOSA** (Arg)	(31) 19.06.85	2016 / Besiktas (Tur)
8	**SUSO** (Spa)	(22) 19.11.93	2015 / Liverpool (Eng)
70	Carlos **BACCA** (Col)	(30) 08.09.86	2015 / Sevilla (Spa)
9	Gianluca **LAPADULA**	(26) 07.02.90	2016 / Pescara
7	**LUIZ ADRIANO** (Bra)	(29) 12.04.87	2015 / Shakhtar D (Ukr)
11	Mbaye **NIANG** (Fra)	(21) 19.12.94	2012 / Montpellier (Fra)
●	**Vincenzo MONTELLA**	(42) 18.06.74	2016 / Sampdoria

Watchful...Milan's Suso keeps an eye on Faouzi Ghoulam of Napoli

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
2	5

Title odds **9-2**

Gripping...Juventus' Mario Mandzukic (right) gets hold of Inter defender Miranda

NAPOLI

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
25	Pepe **REINA** (Spa)	(34) 31.08.82	2015 / Bayern M (Ger)
1	**RAFAEL** (Bra)	(26) 20.05.90	2013 / Santos (Bra)
22	Luigi **SEPE**	(25) 08.05.91	
33	Raul **ALBIOL** (Spa)	(31) 04.09.85	2013 / Real Madrid (Spa)
21	Vlad **CHIRICHES** (Rom)	(26) 14.11.89	2015 / Tottenham H (Eng)
31	Faouzi **GHOULAM** (Alg)	(25) 01.02.91	2014 / Saint-Etienne (Fra)
2	Elseid **HYSAJ** (Alb)	(22) 02.02.94	2015 / Empoli
26	Kalidou **KOULIBALY** (Fra)	(25) 20.06.91	2014 / Genk (Blg)
95	Igor **LASICKI** (Pol)	(21) 26.06.95	2012 / Zaglebie Lubin (Pol)
11	Christian **MAGGIO**	(34) 11.02.82	2008 / Sampdoria
19	Nikola **MAKSIMOVIC** (Ser)	(24) 25.11.91	2016 / Torino loan
3	Ivan **STRINIC** (Cro)	(29) 17.07.87	2015 / Dnipro (Ukr)
62	Lorenzo **TONELLI**	(26) 17.01.90	2016 / Empoli
5	**ALLAN** (Bra)	(25) 08.01.91	2015 / Udinese
42	Amadou **DIAWARA** (Gui)	(19) 17.07.97	2016 / Bologna
77	Omar **EL KADDOURI** (Mor)	(26) 21.08.90	2012 / Brescia
4	Emanuele **GIACCHERINI**	(31) 05.05.85	2016 / Sunderland (Eng)
17	Marek **HAMSIK** (Slk)	(29) 27.07.87	2007 / Brescia
8	**JORGINHO**	(24) 21.12.91	2014 / Verona
30	Marko **ROG** (Cro)	(21) 19.07.95	2016 / Din Zagreb (Cro)
20	Piotr **ZIELINSKI** (Pol)	(22) 20.05.94	2016 / Udinese
7	Jose **CALLEJON** (Spa)	(29) 11.02.87	2013 / Real Madrid (Spa)
23	Manolo **GABBIADINI**	(24) 26.11.91	2015 / Sampdoria
24	Lorenzo **INSIGNE**	(25) 04.06.91	
94	Roberto **INSIGNE**	(22) 11.05.94	
14	Dries **MERTENS** (Blg)	(29) 06.05.87	2013 / PSV (Hol)
99	Arkadiusz **MILIK** (Pol)	(22) 28.02.94	2016 / Ajax (Hol)
●	**Maurizio SARRI**	(57) 10.01.59	2015 / Empoli

PALERMO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
68	Andrea **FULIGNATI**	(21) 31.10.94	2012 / Sestese
1	Josip **POSAVEC** (Cro)	(20) 10.03.96	2016 / Inter Zapresic (Cro)
19	Haitam **ALEESAMI** (Nor)	(25) 31.07.91	2016 / IFK (Swe)
4	Sinisa **ANDJELKOVIC** (Sln)	(30) 13.02.86	2011 / Maribor (Sln)
15	Thiago **CIONEK** (Pol)	(30) 21.04.86	2016 / Modena
6	Edoardo **GOLDANIGA**	(22) 02.11.93	2012 / Pergolettese
12	Giancarlo **GONZALEZ** (CR)	(28) 08.02.88	2014 / Col Crew (USA)
89	Michel **MORGANELLA** (Swi)	(27) 17.05.89	2009 / Basle (Swi)
97	Giuseppe **PEZZELLA**	(18) 29.11.97	
5	Slobodan **RAJKOVIC** (Ser)	(27) 03.02.89	2016 / Darmstadt (Ger)
3	Andrea **RISPOLI**	(27) 29.09.88	2015 / Parma
2	Roberto **VITIELLO**	(33) 08.05.83	2014 / Siena
24	Ouasim **BOUY** (Hol)	(23) 11.06.93	2016 / Juventus loan
25	**BRUNO HENRIQUE** (Bra)	(26) 21.10.89	2016 / Corinthians (Bra)
18	Ivaylo **CHOCHEV** (Bul)	(23) 18.02.93	2014 / CSKA Sofia (Bul)
11	Carlos **EMBALO** (GuB)	(21) 25.11.94	2014 / Chaves (Por)
14	Alessandro **GAZZI**	(33) 28.01.83	2016 / Torino
10	Oscar **HILJEMARK** (Swe)	(24) 28.06.92	2015 / PSV (Hol)
28	Mato **JAJALO** (Cro)	(28) 25.05.88	2015 / Rijeka (Cro)
21	Robin **QUAISON** (Swe)	(22) 09.10.93	2014 / AIK (Swe)
8	Aleksandar **TRAJKOVSKI** (Mac)	(24) 05.09.92	2015 / Z Waregem (Blg)
22	Norbert **BALOGH** (Hun)	(20) 21.02.96	2016 / Debrecen (Hun)
27	Accursio **BENTIVEGNA**	(20) 21.06.96	
23	Alessandro **DIAMANTI**	(33) 02.05.83	2016 / Guangzhou Ev (Chn)
30	Ilija **NESTOROVSKI** (Mac)	(26) 12.03.90	2016 / Inter Zapresic (Cro)
20	Roland **SALLAI** (Hun)	(19) 22.05.97	2016 / Puskas Ac (Hun) loan
●	**Roberto DE ZERBI**	(37) 06.06.79	2016 / Foggia

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **2,000-1**

PESCARA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
12	Gabriele **ALDEGANI**	(40) 10.05.76	2014 / Nocerina
31	Albano **BIZZARRI** (Arg)	(38) 09.11.77	2016 / Chievo
1	Vincenzo **FIORILLO**	(26) 13.01.90	2016 / Juventus
3	Cristiano **BIRAGHI**	(24) 01.09.92	2016 / Internazionale
14	Hugo **CAMPAGNARO** (Arg)	(36) 27.06.80	2015 / Internazionale
35	Andrea **CODA**	(31) 25.04.85	2016 / Sampdoria
2	Alessandro **CRESCENZI**	(25) 25.09.91	2016 / Roma
44	Michele **FORNASIER**	(23) 22.08.93	2015 / Sampdoria
37	Norbert **GYOMBOR** (Slk)	(24) 03.07.92	2016 / Roma loan
11	Francesco **ZAMPANO**	(23) 30.09.93	2014 / Verona
13	Dario **ZUPARIC** (Cro)	(24) 03.05.92	2013 / Cibalia (Cro)
20	Alberto **AQUILANI**	(32) 07.07.84	2016 / Sporting (Por)
10	Ahmad **BENALI** (Lby)	(24) 07.02.92	2016 / Palermo
16	Gaston **BRUGMAN** (Uru)	(24) 07.09.92	2015 / Empoli
5	Alessandro **BRUNO**	(33) 04.07.83	2015 / Latina
6	Bryan **CRISTANTE**	(21) 03.03.95	2016 / Benfica (Por) loan
8	Ledian **MEMUSHAJ** (Alb)	(29) 07.12.86	2015 / Lecce
28	Alexandru **MITRITA** (Rom)	(21) 08.02.95	2015 / Viitorul (Rom)
21	Simone **PEPE**	(33) 30.08.83	2016 / Chievo
7	Valerio **VERRE**	(22) 11.01.94	2016 / Udinese
26	Davide **VITTURINI**	(19) 21.02.97	
15	Jean-Christophe **BAHEBECK** (Fra)	(23) 01.05.93	2016 / PSG (Fra) loan
17	Gianluca **CAPRARI**	(23) 30.07.93	2016 / Inter loan
9	Rey **MANAJ** (Alb)	(19) 24.02.97	2016 / Inter loan
30	Robert **MURIC** (Cro)	(20) 12.03.96	2016 / Ajax (Hol) loan
27	Stefano **PETTINARI**	(24) 27.01.92	2016 / Roma loan
●	**Massimo ODDO**	(40) 14.06.76	2015 / Pescara youth

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **2,000-1**

ROMA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
19	**ALISSON** (Bra)	(24) 02.10.92	2016 / Internacional (Bra)
18	Bogdan **LOBONT** (Rom)	(38) 18.01.78	2009 / Din Bucharest (Rom)
1	Wojciech **SZCZESNY** (Pol)	(26) 18.04.90	2015 / Arsenal (Eng) loan
13	**BRUNO PERES** (Bra)	(26) 01.03.90	2016 / Torino loan
33	**EMERSON** (Bra)	(22) 03.08.94	2016 / Santos (Bra) loan
20	Federico **FAZIO** (Arg)	(29) 17.03.87	2016 / Tottenham (Eng) loan
3	**JUAN JESUS** (Bra)	(25) 10.06.91	2016 / Internazionale loan
44	Konstantinos **MANOLAS** (Gre)	(25) 14.06.91	2014 / Olympiakos (Gre)
21	**MARIO RUI** (Por)	(25) 27.05.91	2016 / Empoli loan
2	Antonio **RUDIGER** (Ger)	(23) 03.03.93	2016 / Stuttgart (Ger)
15	Thomas **VERMAELEN** (Blg)	(30) 14.11.85	2016 / Barcelona (Spa) loan
16	Daniele **DE ROSSI**	(33) 24.07.83	
24	Alessandro **FLORENZI**	(25) 11.03.91	
30	**GERSON** (Bra)	(19) 20.05.97	2016 / Fluminense (Bra)
4	Radja **NAINGGOLAN** (Blg)	(28) 04.05.88	2014 / Cagliari
5	Leandro **PAREDES** (Arg)	(22) 29.06.94	2014 / Boca Juniors (Arg)
8	Diego **PEROTTI** (Arg)	(28) 26.07.88	2016 / Genoa
11	Mohamed **SALAH** (Egy)	(24) 15.06.92	2016 / Chelsea (Eng)
6	Kevin **STROOTMAN** (Hol)	(26) 13.02.90	2013 / PSV (Hol)
9	Edin **DZEKO** (Bos)	(30) 17.03.86	2015 / Man City (Eng)
92	Stephan **EL SHAARAWY**	(23) 27.10.92	2016 / Milan
7	Juan Manuel **ITURBE** (Arg)	(23) 04.06.93	2014 / Porto (Por)
10	Francesco **TOTTI**	(40) 27.09.76	
●	**Luciano SPALLETTI**	(57) 07.03.59	2016 / Zenit (Rus)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
3	9

Title odds **12-1**

New boy...Haitam Aleesami of Palermo

Tackle...Sassuolo's Francesco Magnanelli (in green) beats Pescara's Gianluca Caprari

Chase...Luis Muriel (left) of Sampdoria challenges Roma's Bruno Peres

SAMPDORIA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Christian **PUGGIONI**	(35) 17.01.81	2015 / Chievo
92	Andrea **TOZZO**	(24) 30.08.92	2010 / Verona
2	Emiliano **VIVIANO**	(30) 01.12.85	2014 / Palermo
3	Stanley **AMUZIE** (Nga)	(20) 28.02.96	2016 / Olhanense (Por)
5	**DODO** (Bra)	(24) 06.02.92	2016 / Internazionale
15	Luka **KRAJNC** (Sln)	(22) 19.09.94	2016 / Cagliari loan
20	Daniel **PAVLOVIC** (Swi)	(28) 22.04.88	2016 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
13	Pedro **PEREIRA** (Por)	(18) 22.01.98	2015 / Benfica (Por)
19	Vasco **REGINI**	(26) 09.09.90	2013 / Cesena
26	Matias **SILVESTRE** (Arg)	(32) 25.09.84	2015 / Internazionale
37	Milan **SKRINIAR** (Slk)	(21) 11.02.95	2016 / Zilina (Sln)
11	Ricky **ALVAREZ** (Arg)	(28) 12.04.88	2016 / Internazionale
8	Edgar **BARRETO** (Par)	(32) 15.07.84	2015 / Palermo
7	Carlos **CARBONERO** (Col)	(26) 25.07.90	2016 / Fenix (Uru) loan
21	Luca **CIGARINI**	(30) 20.06.86	2016 / Atalanta
23	Filip **DJURICIC** (Ser)	(24) 30.01.92	2016 / Benfica (Por) loan
6	Mirko **ERAMO**	(27) 12.07.89	2013 / Crotone
10	Bruno **FERNANDES** (Por)	(22) 08.09.94	2016 / Udinese
16	Karol **LINETTY** (Pol)	(21) 02.02.95	2016 / Lech Poznan (Pol)
17	Angelo **PALOMBO**	(35) 25.09.81	2002 / Fiorentina
18	Dennis **PRAET** (Blg)	(22) 14.05.94	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
22	Jacopo **SALA**	(24) 05.12.91	2016 / Verona
34	Lucas **TORREIRA** (Uru)	(20) 11.02.96	2015 / Pescara
47	Ante **BUDIMIR** (Bos)	(25) 22.07.91	2016 / Crotone
99	Antonio **CASSANO**	(34) 12.07.82	2015 / Parma
9	Luis **MURIEL** (Col)	(25) 16.04.91	2015 / Udinese
27	Fabio **QUAGLIARELLA**	(33) 31.01.83	2016 / Torino
14	Patrik **SCHICK** (CzR)	(20) 24.01.96	2016 / Sp Prague (CzR)

● **Marco GIAMPAOLO** (49) 02.08.67 2016 / Empoli

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
1	4

Title odds **500-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **250-1**

SASSUOLO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
47	Andrea **CONSIGLI**	(29) 27.01.87	2014 / Atalanta
79	Gianluca **PEGOLO**	(35) 25.03.81	2013 / Siena
1	Alberto **POMINI**	(35) 17.03.81	2004 / Bellaria
15	Francesco **ACERBI**	(28) 10.02.88	2013 / Genoa
98	Claud **ADJAPONG**	(18) 06.05.98	
5	Luca **ANTEI**	(24) 19.04.92	2013 / Roma
28	Paolo **CANNAVARO**	(35) 26.06.81	2014 / Napoli
39	Cristian **DELL'ORCO**	(22) 10.02.94	2015 / Parma
23	Marcello **GAZZOLA**	(31) 03.04.85	2012 / Ascoli
55	Timo **LETSCHERT** (Hol)	(23) 25.05.93	2016 / Utrecht (Hol)
20	Pol **LIROLA** (Spa)	(19) 13.08.97	2016 / Juventus loan
13	Federico **PELUSO**	(32) 20.01.84	2014 / Juventus
26	Emanuele **TERRANOVA**	(29) 14.04.87	2011 / Palermo
8	Davide **BIONDINI**	(33) 24.01.83	2014 / Genoa
32	Alfred **DUNCAN** (Gha)	(23) 10.03.93	2015 / Sampdoria
4	Francesco **MAGNANELLI**	(31) 12.11.84	2005 / Sangiovannese
22	Luca **MAZZITELLI**	(20) 15.11.95	2016 / Roma
7	Simone **MISSIROLI**	(30) 23.05.86	2012 / Reggina
6	Lorenzo **PELLEGRINI**	(20) 19.06.96	2015 / Roma
27	Federico **RICCI**	(22) 27.05.94	2016 / Roma loan
12	Stefano **SENSI**	(21) 05.08.95	2016 / Cesena
25	Domenico **BERARDI**	(22) 01.08.94	
11	Gregoire **DEFREL** (Fra)	(25) 17.06.91	2015 / Cesena
9	Pietro **IEMMELLO**	(24) 06.03.92	2016 / Spezia
10	Alessandro **MATRI**	(32) 19.08.84	2016 / Milan
16	Matteo **POLITANO**	(23) 03.08.93	2015 / Roma
90	Antonino **RAGUSA**	(26) 27.03.90	2016 / Cesena

● **Eusebio DI FRANCESCO** (47) 08.09.69 2014 / Sassuolo

TORINO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
21	Joe **HART** (Eng)	(29) 19.04.87	2016 / Man City (Eng)
1	Daniele **PADELLI**	(30) 25.10.85	2013 / Udinese
93	Arlind **AJETI** (Alb)	(23) 25.09.93	2016 / Frosinone
26	Danilo **AVELAR** (Bra)	(27) 09.06.89	2016 / Cagliari
23	Antonio **BARRECA**	(21) 18.03.95	
5	Cesare **BOVO**	(33) 14.01.83	2013 / Genoa
4	Leandro **CASTAN** (Bra)	(29) 05.11.86	2016 / Roma loan
29	Lorenzo **DE SILVESTRI**	(28) 23.05.88	2016 / Sampdoria
3	Cristian **MOLINARO**	(33) 30.07.83	2014 / Parma
24	Emiliano **MORETTI**	(35) 11.06.81	2013 / Genoa
13	Luca **ROSSETTINI**	(31) 09.05.85	2016 / Bologna
7	Davide **ZAPPACOSTA**	(24) 11.06.92	2015 / Atalanta
6	Afriyie **ACQUAH** (Gha)	(24) 05.01.92	2015 / Hoffenheim (Ger)
8	Daniele **BASELLI**	(24) 12.03.92	2015 / Atalanta
15	Marco **BENASSI**	(22) 08.09.94	2014 / Internazionale
14	Iago **FALQUE** (Spa)	(26) 04.01.90	2016 / Roma loan
16	Samuel **GUSTAFSON** (Swe)	(21) 20.01.95	2016 / Hacken (Swe)
10	Adem **LJAJIC** (Ser)	(25) 29.09.91	2016 / Roma
25	Sasa **LUKIC** (Ser)	(20) 13.08.96	2016 / Partizan (Ser)
22	Joel **OBI** (Nga)	(25) 22.05.91	2015 / Internazionale
18	Mirko **VALDIFIORI**	(30) 21.04.86	2016 / Napoli
20	Giuseppe **VIVES**	(36) 14.07.80	2011 / Lecce
30	Mattia **ARAMU**	(21) 14.05.95	
9	Andrea **BELOTTI**	(22) 20.12.93	2015 / Palermo
31	Lucas **BOYE** (Arg)	(20) 28.02.96	2016 / River Plate (Arg)
11	Maxi **LOPEZ** (Arg)	(32) 03.04.84	2015 / Chievo
17	Josef **MARTINEZ** (Ven)	(23) 19.05.93	2014 / Young Boys (Swi)
	Sinisa MIHAJLOVIC (Ser)	(47) 20.02.69	2016 / Milan

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
7	5

Title odds

500-1

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds

750-1

UDINESE

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Orestis **KARNEZIS** (Gre)	(31) 11.07.85	2014 / Panathinaikos (Gre)
25	Samuele **PERISAN**	(19) 21.08.97	
22	Simone **SCUFFET**	(20) 31.05.96	
53	Ali **ADNAN** (Irq)	(22) 19.12.93	2015 / Rizespor (Tur)
4	Gabriele **ANGELLA**	(27) 28.04.89	2016 / Watford (Eng)
7	Pablo **ARMERO** (Col)	(29) 02.11.86	2014 / Napoli
5	**DANILO** (Bra)	(32) 10.05.84	2011 / Palmeiras (Bra)
37	Davide **FARAONI**	(24) 25.10.91	2014 / Watford (Eng)
30	**FELIPE** (Bra)	(32) 31.07.84	2015 / Internazionale
75	Thomas **HEURTAUX** (Fra)	(28) 03.07.88	2012 / Caen (Fra)
3	**SAMIR** (Bra)	(21) 05.12.94	2016 / Flamengo (Bra)
2	Molla **WAGUE** (Mli)	(25) 21.02.91	2016 / Granada (Spa) loan
27	Silvan **WIDMER** (Swi)	(23) 05.03.93	2013 / Granada (Spa)
8	Emmanuel **AGYEMANG-BADU** (Gha)	(25) 02.12.90	2010/Berekum Arsenal (Gha)
99	Andrija **BALIC** (Cro)	(19) 11.08.97	2016 / Hajduk Split (Cro)
10	Rodrigo **DE PAUL** (Arg)	(22) 24.05.94	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
95	Lucas **EVANGELISTA** (Bra)	(21) 06.05.95	2014 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
6	Seko **FOFANA** (Fra)	(21) 07.05.95	2016 / Man City (Eng)
23	Emil **HALLFREDSSON** (Ice)	(32) 26.06.84	2016 / Verona
14	Jakub **JANKTO** (CzR)	(20) 19.01.96	2014 / Slavia Prague (CzR)
33	Panagiotis **KONE** (Gre)	(29) 26.07.87	2014 / Bologna
26	Sven **KUMS** (Blg)	(28) 26.02.88	2016 / Gent (Blg) loan
20	Francesco **LODI**	(32) 23.03.84	2015 / Catania
11	Adalberto **PENARANDA** (Ven)	(19) 31.05.97	2016 / Watford (Eng) loan
96	**EWANDRO** (Bra)	(20) 15.03.96	2016 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
19	Ryder **MATOS** (Bra)	(23) 27.02.93	2016 / Fiorentina
18	Stipe **PERICA** (Cro)	(21) 07.07.95	2016 / Chelsea (Eng)
77	Cyril **THEREAU** (Fra)	(33) 24.04.83	2014 / Chievo
9	Duvan **ZAPATA** (Col)	(25) 01.04.91	2016 / Napoli loan
	Giuseppe IACHINI	(52) 07.05.64	2016 / Palermo

Cap...Torino striker Andrea Belotti made his international debut in September

Goalkeepers · Defenders · Midfielders · Forwards · Coach · New signings

SQUAD KEY

ALAVES

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Adrian **ORTOLA**	(23) 20.08.93	2016 / Barcelona loan
1	Fernando **PACHECO**	(24) 18.05.92	2015 / Real Madrid
4	**ALEXIS**	(31) 04.08.85	2016 / Besiktas (Tur)
–	Zouhair **FEDDAL** (Mor)	(27) 01.01.89	2016 / Levante
27	Einar **GALILEA**	(21) 22.05.95	
3	Raul **GARCIA**	(26) 30.11.89	2014 / Almería
15	Theo **HERNANDEZ** (Fra)	(18) 06.10.97	2016 / At Madrid loan
5	Victor **LAGUARDIA**	(26) 05.11.89	2014 / Zaragoza
2	Aleksandar **PANTIC** (Ser)	(24) 11.04.92	2016 / Villarreal loan
22	Carlos **VIGARAY**	(22) 07.09.94	2016 / Getafe
8	Victor **CAMARASA**	(22) 28.05.94	2016 / Levante loan
21	Kiko **FEMENIA**	(25) 02.02.91	2015 / Alcorcon
19	Manu **GARCIA** Sanchez	(30) 26.04.86	2012 / Logrones
26	Manuel **GARCIA** Alonso	(18) 02.01.98	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
23	Nenad **KRSTICIC** (Ser)	(26) 03.07.90	2016 / Sampdoria (Ita)
12	Sergio **LLAMAS**	(23) 06.03.93	
6	Marcos **LLORENTE**	(21) 30.01.95	2016 / Real Madrid loan
17	**EDGAR MENDEZ**	(26) 30.04.90	2016 / Granada
16	Daniel **TORRES** (Col)	(26) 15.11.89	2016 / Ind Medellin (Col)
10	Manu **BARREIRO**	(30) 08.07.86	2014 / Racing Ferrol
–	Asier **BENITO**	(21) 11.02.95	
20	**DEYVERSON** (Bra)	(25) 08.05.91	2016 / Levante loan
14	Cristian **ESPINOZA** (Arg)	(21) 03.04.95	2016 / Villarreal loan
11	**IBAI GOMEZ**	(26) 11.11.89	2016 / Athletic Bilbao
28	Dani **IGLESIAS**	(21) 18.08.95	2016 / Deportivo
25	Aleksandar **KATAI** (Ser)	(25) 06.02.91	2016 / Red Star (Ser)
9	Christian **SANTOS** (Ven)	(28) 24.03.88	2016 / NEC (Hol)
7	Ruben **SOBRINO**	(24) 01.06.92	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
18	Gaizka **TOQUERO**	(32) 09.08.84	2015 / Athletic Bilbao

● **Mauricio PELLEGRINO** (Arg) (44) 05.10.71 2016 / Independiente (Arg)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **2,000-1**

Tussle...Atletico Madrid's Yannick Carrasco (far right) and Victor Camarasa of Alaves

ATHLETIC BILBAO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
26	Kepa **ARRIZABALAGA**	(22) 03.10.94	
13	Iago **HERRERIN**	(28) 25.01.88	
1	Gorka **IRAIZOZ**	(35) 06.03.81	2007 / Espanyol
24	Mikel **BALENZIAGA**	(28) 29.02.88	2013 / Valladolid
2	Eneko **BOVEDA**	(27) 14.12.88	2015 / Eibar
4	Aymeric **LAPORTE** (Fra)	(22) 27.05.94	
15	Inigo **LEKUE**	(23) 04.05.93	
25	Enric **SABORIT**	(24) 27.04.92	
6	Mikel **SAN JOSE**	(27) 30.05.89	2010 / Liverpool (Eng)
27	**YERAY** Alvarez	(21) 24.01.95	
23	Ager **AKETXE**	(22) 30.12.93	
7	**BENAT**	(29) 19.02.87	2013 / Real Betis
18	Oscar **DE MARCOS**	(27) 14.04.89	2009 / Alaves
3	Gorka **ELUSTONDO**	(29) 18.03.87	2015 / Real Sociedad
5	Javier **ERASO**	(26) 22.03.90	2015 / Leganes
16	Xabier **ETXEITA**	(28) 31.10.87	2013 / Elche
22	Raul **GARCIA**	(30) 11.07.86	2015 / Atletico Madrid
8	Ander **ITURRASPE**	(27) 08.03.89	
17	Mikel **RICO**	(31) 01.11.84	2013 / Granada
14	Markel **SUSAETA**	(28) 14.12.87	
12	Mikel **VESGA**	(23) 21.05.93	
20	Aritz **ADURIZ**	(35) 11.02.81	2012 / Valencia
19	Sabin **MERINO**	(24) 04.01.92	
10	Iker **MUNIAIN**	(23) 19.12.92	
11	Inaki **WILLIAMS**	(22) 15.06.94	

● **Ernesto VALVERDE** (52) 09.02.64 2013 / Valencia

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
8	23

Title odds **500-1**

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
10	10

Title odds **11-1**

ATLETICO MADRID

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
25	Andre **MOREIRA** (Por)	(20) 02.12.95	2014 / Ribeirao (Por)
1	Miguel Angel **MOYA**	(32) 02.04.84	2014 / Getafe
13	Jan **OBLAK** (Sln)	(23) 07.01.93	2014 / Benfica (Por)
3	**FILIPE LUIS** (Bra)	(31) 09.08.85	2015 / Chelsea (Eng)
24	Jose **GIMENEZ** (Uru)	(21) 20.01.95	2013 / Danubio (Uru)
2	Diego **GODIN** (Uru)	(30) 16.02.86	2010 / Villarreal
20	**JUANFRAN**	(31) 09.01.85	2011 / Osasuna
19	**LUCAS (FRA)**	(20) 14.02.96	
15	Stefan **SAVIC** (Mne)	(25) 08.01.91	2015 / Fiorentina (Ita)
16	Sime **VRSALJKO** (Cro)	(24) 10.01.92	2016 / Sassuolo (Ita)
11	Angel **CORREA** (Arg)	(21) 09.03.95	2014 / San Lorenzo (Arg)
12	Augusto **FERNANDEZ** (Arg)	(30) 10.04.86	2016 / Celta Vigo
10	Yannick **CARRASCO** (Blg)	(23) 04.09.93	2015 / Monaco (Fra)
14	**GABI**	(33) 10.07.83	2011 / Zaragoza
23	Nico **GAITAN** (Arg)	(28) 23.02.88	2016 / Benfica (Por)
6	**KOKE**	(24) 08.01.92	
22	Thomas **PARTEY** (Gha)	(23) 13.07.93	
8	**SAUL**	(21) 21.11.94	
5	**TIAGO** (Por)	(35) 02.05.81	2011 / Juventus (Ita)
17	Alessio **CERCI** (Ita)	(29) 23.07.87	2014 / Torino (Ita)
21	Kevin **GAMEIRO** (Fra)	(29) 09.04.87	2016 / Sevilla
7	Antoine **GRIEZMANN** (Fra)	(25) 21.03.91	2014 / Real Sociedad
9	Fernando **TORRES**	(32) 20.03.84	2015 / Milan (Ita)

● **Diego SIMEONE** (Arg) (46) 28.04.70 2011 / Racing Club (Arg)

BARCELONA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Jasper **CILLESSEN** (Hol)	(27) 22.04.89	2016 / Ajax (Hol)
25	Jordi **MASIP**	(27) 03.01.89	
1	Marc-Andre **TER STEGEN** (Ger)	(24) 30.04.92	2014 / B M'gladbach (Ger)
18	Jordi **ALBA**	(27) 21.03.89	2012 / Valencia
19	Lucas **DIGNE** (Fra)	(23) 20.07.93	2016 / PSG (Fra)
24	Jeremy **MATHIEU** (Fra)	(32) 29.10.83	2014 / Valencia
3	Gerard **PIQUE**	(29) 02.02.87	2008 / Man United (Eng)
23	Samuel **UMTITI** (Fra)	(22) 14.11.93	2016 / Lyon (Fra)
7	**ARDA** Turan (Tur)	(29) 30.01.87	2015 / Atletico Madrid
5	Sergio **BUSQUETS**	(28) 16.07.88	
21	Andre **GOMES** (Por)	(23) 30.07.93	2016 / Valencia
8	Andres **INIESTA**	(32) 11.05.84	
14	Javier **MASCHERANO** (Arg)	(32) 08.06.84	2010 / Liverpool (Eng)
12	**RAFINHA** (Bra)	(23) 12.02.93	
4	Ivan **RAKITIC** (Cro)	(28) 10.03.88	2014 / Sevilla
20	Sergi **ROBERTO**	(24) 07.02.92	
6	Denis **SUAREZ**	(22) 06.01.94	2016 / Villarreal
22	Aleix **VIDAL**	(27) 21.08.89	2015 / Sevilla
17	Paco **ALCACER**	(23) 30.08.93	2016 / Valencia
10	Lionel **MESSI** (Arg)	(29) 24.06.87	
11	**NEYMAR** (Bra)	(24) 05.02.92	2013 / Santos (Bra)
9	Luis **SUAREZ** (Uru)	(29) 24.01.87	2014 / Liverpool (Eng)
	Luis ENRIQUE	(46) 08.05.70	2014 / Celta Vigo

STATS
League wins: 24
Cup wins: 28
Title odds: 5-6

Blondes have more fun...Barcelona team-mates Lionel Messi (left) and Neymar

CELTA VIGO

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Sergio **ALVAREZ**	(30) 03.08.86	
13	Ruben **BLANCO**	(21) 25.07.95	
22	Gustavo **CABRAL** (Arg)	(30) 14.10.85	2012 / Arsenal (Arg)
4	David **COSTAS**	(21) 26.03.95	
3	Andreu **FONTAS**	(26) 14.11.89	2013 / Barcelona
20	Sergi **GOMEZ**	(24) 28.07.92	2010 / Barcelona
19	**JOHNY**	(22) 03.03.94	
2	Hugo **MALLO**	(25) 22.06.91	
21	Carles **PLANAS**	(25) 04.03.91	2014 / Barcelona
6	Nemanja **RADOJA** (Ser)	(23) 06.02.93	2014 / Vojvodina (Ser)
24	Facundo **RONCAGLIA** (Arg)	(29) 10.02.87	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita)
18	Daniel **WASS** (Den)	(27) 31.05.89	2015 / Evian (Fra)
28	Pape **CHEIKH**	(19) 08.08.97	
5	Marcelo **DIAZ** (Chl)	(29) 30.12.86	2016 / Hamburg (Ger)
8	Pablo **HERNANDEZ** (Chl)	(29) 24.10.86	2014 / O'Higgins (Chl)
15	Alvaro **LEMOS**	(23) 30.03.93	2016 / Lugo
11	Pione **SISTO** (Den)	(21) 04.02.95	2016 / Midtjylland (Den)
10	Iago **ASPAS**	(29) 11.08.87	2015 / Sevilla
12	Claudio **BEAUVUE** (Fra)	(28) 16.04.88	2016 / Lyon (Fra)
7	Theo **BONGONDA** (Blg)	(20) 20.11.95	2015 / Z Waregem (Blg)
9	John **GUIDETTI** (Swe)	(24) 15.04.92	2015 / Man City (Eng)
17	Jose **NARANJO**	(22) 28.07.94	2016 / Gimnastic
14	Fabian **ORELLANA** (Chl)	(30) 27.01.86	2013 / Granada
25	Giuseppe **ROSSI** (Ita)	(29) 01.02.87	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita) loan
23	Josep **SENE**	(24) 10.12.91	2015 / Oviedo
	Eduardo BERIZZO (Arg)	(46) 13.11.69	2014 / O'Higgins (Chl)

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: 500-1

STATS
League wins: 1
Cup wins: 2
Title odds: 1,500-1

DEPORTIVO LA CORUNA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	German **LUX** (Arg)	(34) 06.07.82	2011 / Mallorca
25	**RUBEN**	(32) 22.06.84	2016 / Levante
13	Przemyslaw **TYTON** (Pol)	(29) 04.01.87	2016 / Stuttgart (Ger)
6	Raul **ALBENTOSA**	(28) 07.09.88	2016 / Derby County (Eng)
14	Alejandro **ARRIBAS**	(27) 01.05.89	2015 / Sevilla
15	**LAURE**	(31) 22.03.85	
16	**LUISINHO** (Por)	(31) 05.05.85	2013 / Benfica (Por)
3	Fernando **NAVARRO**	(34) 25.06.82	2015 / Sevilla
12	**SIDNEI** (Bra)	(27) 23.08.89	2016 / Benfica (Por)
23	Ryan **BABEL** (Hol)	(29) 19.12.86	2016 / Al Ain (UAE)
4	Alex **BERGANTINOS**	(31) 07.06.85	
22	Celso **BORGES** (CR)	(28) 27.05.88	2015 / AIK (Swe)
8	**EMRE** Colak (Tur)	(25) 20.05.91	2016 / Galatasaray (Tur)
19	Faycal **FAJR** (Mor)	(28) 01.08.88	2015 / Elche
21	Bruno **GAMA** (Por)	(28) 15.11.87	2016 / Dnipro (Ukr)
11	Carles **GIL**	(23) 22.11.92	2016 / Aston Villa (Eng)
20	**GUILHERME** (Bra)	(25) 05.04.91	2016 / Udinese (Ita) loan
2	**JUANFRAN**	(28) 11.09.88	2015 / Watford (Eng) loan
5	Pedro **MOSQUERA**	(28) 21.04.88	2015 / Elche
17	Borja **VALLE**	(24) 09.07.92	2016 / Oviedo
10	Florin **ANDONE** (Rom)	(23) 11.04.93	2016 / Cordoba
7	**JOSELU**	(26) 27.03.90	2016 / Stoke City (Eng)
9	Marlos **MORENO** (Col)	(20) 20.09.96	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
	Gaizka GARITANO	(41) 09.07.75	2016 / Valladolid

EIBAR

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Asier **RIESGO**	(33) 06.10.83	2015 / Osasuna
1	**YOEL**	(28) 28.08.88	2016 / Valencia loan
18	Anaitz **ARBILLA**	(29) 15.05.87	2016 / Espanyol
7	Ander **CAPA**	(24) 14.05.92	
15	Mauro **DOS SANTOS** (Arg)	(27) 07.07.89	2015 / Almeria
3	Alejandro **GALVEZ**	(27) 06.06.89	2016 / W Bremen (Ger)
23	David **JUNCA**	(22) 16.11.93	2015 / Girona
20	Florian **LEJEUNE** (Fra)	(25) 20.05.91	2016 / Man City (Eng)
19	Antonio **LUNA**	(25) 17.03.91	2015 / Aston Villa (Eng)
4	Ivan **RAMIS**	(31) 25.10.84	2015 / Levante
5	Gonzalo **ESCALANTE** (Arg)	(23) 27.03.93	2015 / Catania (Ita)
14	Dani **GARCIA**	(26) 24.05.90	2014 / Real Sociedad
24	Adrian **GONZALEZ**	(28) 25.05.88	2015 / Elche
8	Takashi **INUI** (Jap)	(28) 02.06.88	2015 / E Frankfurt (Ger)
10	**JOTA**	(25) 16.06.91	2016 / Brentford (Eng) loan
21	Pedro **LEON**	(29) 24.11.86	2016 / Getafe
11	Ruben **PENA**	(25) 18.07.91	2016 / Leganes
6	Cristian **RIVERA**	(19) 09.07.97	2016 / Oviedo
16	Fran **RICO**	(29) 03.08.87	2016 / Granada loan
25	**BEBE** (Por)	(26) 12.07.90	2016 / Benfica (Por)
9	Sergi **ENRICH**	(26) 26.02.90	2015 / Numancia
17	**KIKE**	(26) 25.11.89	2016 / Middlesbrough (Eng)
22	**NANO**	(21) 05.02.95	2016 / Tenerife
	Jose Luis MENDILIBAR	(55) 14.03.61	2015 / Levante

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **2,000-1**

ESPANYOL

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Diego **LOPEZ**	(34) 03.11.81	2016 / Milan (Ita) loan
1	**ROBERTO**	(30) 10.02.86	2016 / Olympiakos (Gre)
5	Victor **ALVAREZ**	(23) 14.03.93	
2	Martin **DEMICHELIS** (Arg)	(35) 20.12.80	2016 / Man City (Eng)
6	Oscar **DUARTE** (CR)	(27) 03.06.89	2016 / Club Brugge (Blg)
3	Ruben **DUARTE**	(20) 18.10.95	
16	Javi **LOPEZ**	(30) 21.01.86	
23	Diego **REYES** (Mex)	(24) 19.09.92	2016 / Porto (Por) loan
20	Pape **DIOP** (Sen)	(30) 19.03.86	2015 / Levante
18	Javi **FUEGO**	(32) 04.01.84	2016 / Valencia
14	Jose Manuel **JURADO**	(30) 29.06.86	2016 / Watford (Eng)
15	David **LOPEZ**	(26) 09.10.89	2016 / Napoli (Ita)
17	Hernan **PEREZ** (Par)	(27) 25.02.89	2015 / Villarreal
19	Pablo **PIATTI** (Arg)	(27) 31.03.89	2016 / Valencia loan
28	Marc **ROCA**	(19) 26.11.96	
4	Victor **SANCHEZ**	(29) 08.09.87	2012 / Neuchatel (Swi)
8	Salva **SEVILLA**	(32) 18.03.84	2014 / Real Betis
11	Leo **BAPTISTAO** (Bra)	(24) 26.08.92	2016 / Atletico Madrid
10	Felipe **CAICEDO** (Ecu)	(28) 05.09.88	2014 / Al Jazira (UAE)
7	Gerard **MORENO**	(24) 07.04.92	2015 / Villarreal
9	Jose Antonio **REYES**	(33) 01.09.83	2016 / Sevilla
22	Alvaro **VAZQUEZ**	(25) 27.04.91	2016 / Getafe
	Quique FLORES	(51) 05.02.65	2016 / Watford (Eng)

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	4

Title odds **1,000-1**

Ahead...Granada's Uche Agbo beats Alexandre Pato of Villarreal to the ball

GRANADA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
25	Ivan **KELAVA** (Cro)	(28) 20.02.88	2015 / Udinese (Ita)
13	Guillermo **OCHOA** (Mex)	(31) 13.07.85	2016 / Malaga loan
1	Oier **OLAZABAL**	(27) 14.09.89	2014 / Barcelona
22	Dimitri **FOULQUIER** (Fra)	(23) 23.03.93	2014 / Rennes (Fra)
6	David **LOMBAN**	(29) 05.06.87	2015 / Elche
20	Matthieu **SAUNIER** (Fra)	(26) 07.02.90	2016 / Troyes (Fra)
12	Gabriel **SILVA** (Bra)	(25) 13.05.91	2016 / Udinese (Ita) loan
3	Gaston **SILVA** (Uru)	(22) 05.03.94	2016 / Torino (Ita) loan
2	**TITO**	(31) 11.07.85	2016 / Rayo Vallecano
17	Ruben **VEZO** (Por)	(22) 25.04.94	2016 / Valencia loan
5	Uche **AGBO** (Nga)	(20) 04.12.95	2016 / Watford (Eng)
26	Victorien **ANGBAN** (IvC)	(19) 29.09.96	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
10	Jeremie **BOGA** (Fra)	(19) 03.01.97	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
16	Mehdi **CARCELA-GONZALEZ** (Mor)		
		(27) 01.07.89	2016 / Benfica (Por)
19	Isaac **CUENCA**	(25) 27.04.91	2016 / Bursaspor (Tur)
21	Rene **KRHIN** (Sln)	(26) 21.05.90	2015 / Almeria
8	Javi **MARQUEZ**	(30) 11.05.86	2014 / Mallorca
18	Andreas **PEREIRA** (Blg)	(20) 01.01.96	2016 / Man Utd (Eng) loan
4	Sergi **SAMPER**	(21) 20.01.95	2016 / Barcelona loan
14	Franck **TABANOU** (Fra)	(27) 30.01.89	2016 / Swansea (Eng) loan
11	Jon **TORAL**	(21) 05.02.95	2016 / Arsenal (Eng) loan
15	Omer **ATZILI** (Isr)	(23) 27.07.93	2016 / B Jerusalem (Isr)
7	David **BARRAL**	(33) 10.05.83	2016 / Al Dhafra (UAE)
23	Alberto **BUENO**	(28) 20.03.88	2016 / Porto (Por) loan
24	Artem **KRAVETS** (Ukr)	(27) 03.06.89	2016 / D Kiev (Ukr) loan
9	Ezequiel **PONCE** (Arg)	(19) 29.03.97	2016 / Roma (Ita) loan
	(vacant)		

STATS

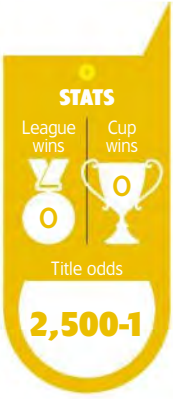
League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds **2,000-1**

LAS PALMAS

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Raul **LIZOAIN**	(25) 27.01.91	
31	David **RAMIREZ**	(21) 07.09.95	
13	Javi **VARAS**	(34) 10.09.82	2015 / Valladolid
16	**AYTHAMI**	(30) 27.08.86	
17	Pedro **BIGAS**	(26) 15.05.90	2015 / Mallorca
23	Dani **CASTELLANO**	(28) 02.11.87	2011 / Mallorca
2	**DAVID SIMON**	(26) 31.12.89	
5	David **GARCIA**	(34) 25.02.82	2003 / Vecindario
3	Mauricio **LEMOS** (Uru)	(20) 28.12.95	2016 / Rubin Kazan (Rus)
22	Helder **LOPES** (Por)	(27) 04.01.89	2016 / Pacos Ferreira (Por)
12	**MICHEL** (Bra)	(26) 15.02.90	2016 / Almeria
7	Kevin-Prince **BOATENG** (Gha)	(29) 06.03.87	2016 / Milan (Ita)
18	Javi **CASTELLANO**	(28) 02.11.87	2011 / Mallorca
8	Nabil **EL ZHAR** (Mor)	(30) 27.08.86	2015 / Levante
19	Mateo **GARCIA** (Arg)	(20) 10.09.96	2016 / Instituto (Arg)
4	Vicente **GOMEZ**	(28) 31.08.88	
14	**HERNAN**	**(26)** 26.08.90	
11	**MOMO**	(34) 15.07.82	2012 / Real Betis
6	Angel **MONTORO**	(28) 25.06.88	2016 / Almeria
15	**ROQUE MESA**	(27) 07.06.89	2011 / Levante
21	Jonathan **VIERA**	(26) 21.10.89	2015 / Standard (Blg)
10	Sergio **ARAUJO** (Arg)	(24) 28.01.92	2015 / Boca Juniors (Arg)
25	**ASDRUBAL**	(25) 13.03.91	
9	Marko **LIVAJA** (Cro)	(23) 26.08.93	2016 / Rubin Kazan (Rus)
24	**TANA**	(26) 20.09.90	
20	**TYRONNE**	(25) 27.01.91	
●	**Quique SETIEN**	(58) 27.09.58	2015 / Lugo

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **1,000-1**



LEGANES

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Alberto **BRIGNOLI** (Ita)	(25) 19.08.91	2016 / Juventus (Ita) loan
13	Jon Ander **SERANTES**	(26) 24.10.89	2015 / Lugo
3	Unai **BUSTINZA**	(24) 02.02.92	2016 / Athletic Bilbao
17	Victor **DIAZ**	(28) 12.06.88	2015 / Recreativo Huelva
18	Pablo **INSUA**	(23) 09.09.93	2015 / Deportivo loan
5	Martin **MANTOVANI** (Arg)	(32) 07.07.84	2014 / Oviedo
4	Adrian **MARIN**	(19) 09.01.97	2016 / Villarreal loan
12	Carl **MEDJANI** (Alg)	(31) 15.05.85	2016 / Levante
15	Diego **RICO**	(23) 23.02.93	2016 / Zaragoza
6	**ALBERTO**	(27) 31.03.89	2013 / Almeria
8	**GABRIEL** (Bra)	(23) 18.09.93	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
19	Unai **LOPEZ**	(20) 30.10.95	2016 / Ath Bilbao loan
23	Julian **OMAR**	(28) 26.01.88	2015 / Valladolid
21	Ruben **PEREZ**	(27) 26.04.89	2016 / Granada loan
16	**ROBERT** Ibanez	(23) 22.03.93	2016 / Valencia loan
22	Lluis **SASTRE**	(30) 26.03.86	2015 / Valladolid
11	Alexander **SZYMANOWSKI** (Arg)	(27) 13.10.88	2015 / Brondby (Den)
24	David **TIMOR**	(26) 17.10.89	2016 / Valladolid
10	**TONI**	(26) 04.04.90	2015 / Lugo
9	Miguel Angel **GUERRERO**	(26) 12.07.90	2016 / Sporting Gijon
14	Mamadou **KONE** (IvC)	(24) 25.12.91	2016 / Racing Santander
20	**LUCIANO** (Bra)	(23) 18.05.93	2016 / Corinthians (Bra) loan
7	Darwin **MACHIS** (Ven)	(23) 07.02.93	2016 / Granada loan
●	**Asier GARITANO**	(46) 06.12.69	2013 / Leganes

Celebrate...Malaga's Sandro Ramirez congratulates Juanpi (left) on his goal against Osasuna

STATS
League wins: 0
Cup wins: 0
Title odds: **1,500-1**

MALAGA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Denys **BOYKO** (Ukr)	(28) 29.01.88	2016 / Besiktas (Tur)
27	Aaron **ESCANDELL**	(21) 27.09.95	
1	Carlos **KAMENI** (Cam)	(32) 18.02.84	2012 / Espanyol
2	Bakari **KONE** (BuF)	(28) 27.04.88	2016 / Lyon (Fra)
5	Diego **LLORENTE**	(23) 16.08.93	2016 / Real Madrid loan
15	Federico **RICCA** (Uru)	(21) 01.12.94	2016 / Danubio (Uru)
18	Roberto **ROSALES** (Ven)	(27) 20.11.88	2014 / Twente (Hol)
23	Miguel **TORRES**	(30) 28.01.86	2014 / Olympiakos (Gre)
4	Mikel **VILLANUEVA** (Ven)	(23) 14.04.93	2016 / Dep Lara (Ven)
3	**WELIGTON** (Bra)	(37) 26.08.79	2008 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
6	Ignacio **CAMACHO**	(26) 04.05.90	2011 / Atletico Madrid
11	Gonzalo **CASTRO** (Uru)	(32) 14.09.84	2016 / Real Sociedad
17	**DUDA (POR)**	(36) 27.06.80	2009 / Sevilla
21	**JONY**	(25) 09.07.91	2016 / Sporting Gijon
7	**JUAN CARLOS**	(26) 30.03.90	2015 / Braga (Por) loan
10	**JUANPI** (Ven)	(22) 24.01.94	
20	**KEKO**	(24) 27.12.91	2016 / Eibar
22	Zdravko **KUZMANOVIC** (Ser)	(29) 22.09.87	2016 / Basle (Swi) loan
14	**RECIO**	(25) 11.01.91	
9	**CHARLES** (Bra)	(32) 04.04.84	2015 / Celta Vigo
26	Youssef **EN-NESYRI** (Mor)	(19) 01.06.97	
31	Pablo **FORNALS**	(20) 22.02.96	
39	Javi **ONTIVEROS**	(19) 09.09.97	2010 / none
19	**SANDRO**	**(21)** 09.07.95	2016 / Barcelona loan
8	Michael **SANTOS** (Uru)	(23) 13.03.93	2016 / River Plate (Uru)
●	**Juande RAMOS**	(62) 25.09.54	2016 / Dnipro (Ukr)

Up and over...Deportivo La Coruna's Faycal Fajr tries to beat the Real Betis wall with a free-kick

OSASUNA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Mario **FERNANDEZ**	(28) 30.04.88	2015 / Racing Santander
13	Nauzet **PEREZ**	(31) 01.03.85	2015 / Sabadell
34	Aitor **BUNUEL**	(18) 10.02.98	
2	Javier **FLANO**	(32) 19.08.84	2014 / Mirandes
4	Miguel **FLANO**	(32) 19.08.84	
16	Juan **FUENTES**	(26) 05.01.90	2016 / Espanyol
5	David **GARCIA**	(22) 14.02.94	
3	**TANO (DOR)**	(26) 30.06.90	2015 / Villarreal
24	Javi **ALAMO**	(28) 18.08.88	2016 / Girona
11	Alex **BERENGUER**	(21) 04.07.95	
8	Goran **CAUSIC** (Ser)	(24) 05.05.92	2016 / Eskisehirspor (Tur)
21	Carlos **CLERC**	(24) 21.02.92	2016 / Espanyol
20	Miguel **DE LAS CUEVAS**	(30) 19.06.86	2016 / Spezia
22	Didier **DIGARD** (Fra)	(30) 12.07.86	2016 / Betis loan
14	**FAUSTO**	**(26)** 08.01.90	2016 / Alcorcon
15	Unai **GARCIA**	(24) 03.09.92	
18	Fran **MERIDA**	(26) 04.03.90	2016 / Huesca
6	Oier	**(30)** 25.05.86	
35	Miguel **OLAVIDE**	(20) 05.03.96	
36	Antonio **OTEGUI**	(18) 07.03.98	
17	Jaime **ROMERO**	(26) 31.07.90	2016 / Udinese (Ita)
10	Roberto **TORRES**	(27) 07.03.89	
19	Kenan **KODRO**	(23) 19.08.93	2014 / Real Sociedad
7	Sergio **LEON**	(27) 06.01.89	2016 / Elche
9	Oriol **RIERA**	(30) 03.07.86	2016 / Deportivo loan
12	Emmanuel **RIVIERE** (Fra)	(26) 03.03.90	2016 / Newcastle (Eng) loan
	Enrique MARTIN	(60) 09.03.56	2015 / Osasuna B

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds

1,500-1

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
1	2

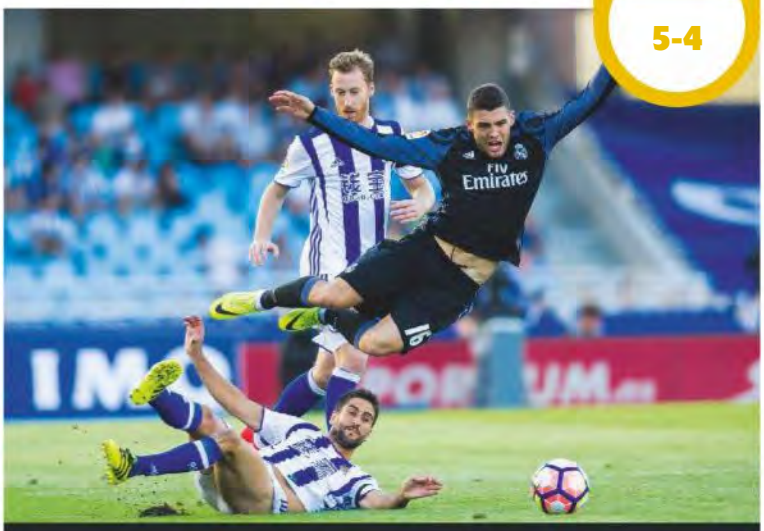
Title odds

1,500-1

REAL BETIS

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Antonio **ADAN**	(29) 13.05.87	2014 / Cagliari (Ita)
1	Dani **GIMENEZ**	(33) 30.07.83	2014 / Alcorcon
25	**MANU**	(35) 29.09.81	2016 / Zaragoza
4	**BRUNO**	(26) 24.05.90	2014 / Tenerife
28	Jose **CARLOS**	(20) 10.05.96	
15	Ryan **DONK** (Hol)	(30) 30.03.86	2016 / Galatasaray (Tur) loan
14	Riza **DURMISI** (Den)	(22) 08.01.94	2016 / Brondby (Den)
23	Aissa **MANDI** (Alg)	(24) 22.10.91	2016 / Reims (Fra)
3	Alex **MARTINEZ**	(26) 12.08.90	
2	Rafa **NAVARRO**	(22) 23.02.94	
20	German **PEZZELLA** (Arg)	(25) 27.06.91	2015 / River Plate (Arg)
12	Cristiano **PICCINI** (Ita)	(24) 26.09.92	2015 / Fiorentina (Ita)
22	Darko **BRASANAC** (Ser)	(24) 12.02.92	2016 / Partizan (Ser)
10	Dani **CEBALLOS**	(20) 07.08.96	
16	Alvaro **CEJUDO**	(32) 29.01.84	2014 / Osasuna
21	**FABIAN**	(20) 03.04.96	
6	Felipe **GUTIERREZ** (Chl)	(26) 08.10.90	2016 / Twente (Hol)
17	**JOAQUIN**	(35) 21.07.81	2015 / Fiorentina (Ita)
8	Jonas **MARTIN** (Fra)	(26) 09.04.90	2016 / Montpellier (Fra)
7	Charly **MUSONDA** (Blg)	(19) 15.10.96	2016 / Chelsea (Eng) loan
5	**PETROS** (Bra)	(27) 29.05.89	2015 / Corinthians (Bra)
19	Alex **ALEGRIA**	(23) 10.10.92	
24	Ruben **CASTRO**	(35) 27.06.81	2010 / Deportivo
11	**NAHUEL**	**(19)** 22.10.96	2016 / Villarreal loan
9	Antonio **SANABRIA** (Par)	(20) 04.03.96	2016 / Roma (Ita)
18	Roman **ZOZULYA** (Ukr)	(26) 17.11.89	2016 / Dnipro (Ukr)
	Gus POYET (Uru)	(47) 15.11.68	2016 / AEK (Gre)

Reach...Sporting Gijon's Alberto Lora



Late...Markel Bergara of Real Sociedad upends Real Madrid's Mateo Kovacic

REAL MADRID

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Kiko **CASILLA**	(30) 02.10.86	2015 / Espanyol
1	Keylor **NAVAS** (CR)	(29) 15.12.86	2014 / Levante
25	**RUBEN YANEZ**	(22) 12.10.93	
2	Dani **CARVAJAL**	(24) 11.01.92	2013 / Leverkusen (Ger)
15	Fabio **COENTRAO** (Por)	(28) 11.03.88	2011 / Benfica (Por)
23	**DANILO** (Bra)	(25) 15.07.91	2015 / Porto (Por)
12	**MARCELO** (Bra)	(28) 12.05.88	2007 / Fluminense (Bra)
6	**NACHO**	(26) 18.01.90	
3	**PEPE** (Por)	(33) 26.02.83	2007 / Porto (Por)
4	Sergio **RAMOS**	(30) 30.03.86	2005 / Sevilla
5	Raphael **VARANE** (Fra)	(23) 25.04.93	2011 / Lens (Fra)
20	Marco **ASENSIO**	(20) 21.01.96	2014 / Mallorca
11	Gareth **BALE** (Wal)	(27) 16.07.89	2013 / Tottenham H (Eng)
14	**CASEMIRO** (Bra)	(24) 23.02.92	2013 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
22	**ISCO**	(24) 21.04.92	2013 / Malaga
10	**JAMES RODRIGUEZ** (Col)	(25) 12.07.91	2014 / Monaco (Fra)
16	Mateo **KOVACIC** (Cro)	(22) 06.05.94	2015 / Internazionale (Ita)
8	Toni **KROOS** (Ger)	(26) 04.01.90	2014 / Bayern (Ger)
19	Luka **MODRIC** (Cro)	(31) 09.09.85	2012 / Tottenham H (Eng)
17	Lucas **VAZQUEZ**	(25) 01.07.91	2015 / Espanyol
9	Karim **BENZEMA** (Fra)	(28) 19.12.87	2009 / Lyon (Fra)
18	**MARIANO** (DoR)	(23) 01.08.93	
21	Alvaro **MORATA**	(23) 23.10.92	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
7	Cristiano **RONALDO** (Por)	(31) 05.02.85	2009 / Manchester United (Eng)
●	**Zinedine ZIDANE** (Fra)	(44) 23.06.72	2016 / Real Madrid Castilla

REAL SOCIEDAD

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	Ander **BARDAJI**	(21) 03.05.95	
25	Tono **RAMIREZ**	(29) 23.11.86	2016 / AEK Larnaca (Cyp)
1	Geronimo **RULLI** (Arg)	(24) 20.05.92	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
19	Yuri **BERCHICHE**	(26) 10.02.90	
15	Aritz **ELUSTONDO**	(22) 11.01.94	
3	Mikel **GONZALEZ**	(31) 24.09.85	
21	Hector **HERNANDEZ**	(25) 23.05.91	2013 / Zaragoza
2	Carlos **MARTINEZ**	(30) 09.04.86	
6	Inigo **MARTINEZ**	(25) 17.05.91	
22	Raul **RODRIGUEZ**	(28) 11.05.88	2014 / Eibar
20	Joseba **ZALDUA**	(24) 24.06.92	
5	Markel **BERGARA**	(30) 05.05.86	
16	Sergio **CANALES**	(25) 16.02.91	2014 / Valencia
23	Jon **GAZTANAGA**	(25) 28.06.91	
8	Esteban **GRANERO**	(29) 02.07.87	2014 / QPR (Eng)
4	Asier **ILLARRAMENDI**	(26) 08.03.90	2015 / Real Madrid
18	Mikel **OYARZABAL**	(19) 21.04.97	
10	Xabi **PRIETO**	(33) 29.08.83	
14	Ruben **PARDO**	(23) 22.10.92	
17	David **ZURUTUZA**	(30) 19.07.86	
9	Imanol **AGIRRETXE**	(29) 24.02.87	
24	David **CONCHA**	(19) 20.11.96	
7	**JUANMI**	(23) 20.05.93	2016 / Southampton (Eng)
11	Carlos **VELA** (Mex)	(27) 01.03.89	2012 / Arsenal (Eng)
12	**WILLIAN JOSE** (Bra)	(24) 23.11.91	2016 / Maldonado (Uru)
●	**EUSEBIO Sacristan**	(52) 13.04.64	2015 / Barcelona B

SEVILLA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Sergio **RICO**	(23) 01.09.93	
25	Salvatore **SIRIGU** (Ita)	(29) 12.01.87	2016 / PSG (Fra) loan
13	David **SORIA**	(23) 04.04.93	
6	Daniel **CARRICO** (Por)	(28) 04.08.88	2014 / Reading (Eng)
18	Sergio **ESCUDERO**	(27) 02.09.89	2015 / Getafe
5	Timothee **KOLODZIEJCZAK** (Fra)	(25) 01.10.91	2014 / Nice (Fra)
3	**MARIANO (BRA)**	(30) 23.06.86	2015 / Bordeaux (Fra)
24	Gabriel **MERCADO** (Arg)	(29) 18.03.87	2016 / River Plate (Arg)
21	Nicolas **PAREJA** (Arg)	(32) 19.01.84	2014 / Sp Moscow (Rus)
23	Adil **RAMI** (Fra)	(30) 27.12.85	2015 / Milan (Ita)
2	Benoit **TREMOULINAS** (Fra)	(30) 28.12.85	2014 / Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)
11	Joaquin **CORREA** (Arg)	(22) 13.08.94	2016 / Sampdoria (Ita)
19	Paulo Henrique **GANSO** (Bra)	(26) 12.10.89	2016 / Sao Paulo (Bra)
14	Hiroshi **KIYOTAKE** (Jap)	(26) 12.11.89	2016 / Hanover (Ger)
8	Vicente **IBORRA**	(28) 16.01.88	2013 / Levante
4	Matias **KRANEVITTER** (Arg)	(23) 21.05.93	2016 / At Madrid loan
7	Michael **KROHN-DEHLI** (Den)	(33) 06.06.83	2015 / Celta Vigo
10	Samir **NASRI** (Fra)	(29) 26.06.87	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
15	Steven **N'ZONZI** (Fra)	(27) 15.12.88	2015 / Stoke City (Eng)
17	Pablo **SARABIA**	(24) 11.05.92	2016 / Getafe
22	Franco **VAZQUEZ** (Ita)	(27) 22.02.89	2016 / Palermo (Ita)
20	**VITOLO**	(26) 02.11.89	2013 / Las Palmas
12	Wissam **BEN YEDDER** (Fra)	(26) 12.08.90	2016 / Toulouse (Fra)
9	Luciano **VIETTO** (Arg)	(22) 05.12.93	2016 / At Madrid loan
●	**Jorge SAMPAOLI** (Arg)	(56) 13.03.60	2016 / Chile

SPORTING GIJON

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	Ivan **CUELLAR**	(32) 25.05.84	2008 / Atletico Madrid
13	Diego **MARINO**	(26) 09.05.90	2016 / Levante
30	Oscar **WHALLEY**	(22) 29.03.94	2016 / Zaragoza
5	Fernando **AMOREBIETA** (Ven)	(31) 21.03.85	2016 / Fulham (Eng)
3	Jean-Sylvain **BABIN** (Fra)	(29) 14.10.86	2016 / Granada
15	Roberto **CANELLA**	(28) 07.02.88	
2	**DOUGLAS** (Bra)	(26) 06.08.90	2016 / Barcelona loan
16	**LILLO**	(27) 27.03.89	2016 / Eibar
11	Alberto **LORA**	(29) 25.03.87	
4	Jorge **MERE**	(19) 17.04.97	
6	Sergio **ALVAREZ**	(24) 23.01.92	
10	Nacho **CASES**	(28) 22.12.87	
23	Moi **GOMEZ**	(22) 23.06.94	2016 / Villarreal
18	Isma **LOPEZ**	(26) 29.01.90	2013 / Athletic Bilbao
20	Dani **NDI** (Cam)	(21) 18.08.95	
8	**RACHID** Ait-Atmane (Alg)	(23) 04.02.93	
21	Xavi **TORRES**	(29) 21.11.86	2016 / Real Betis
17	Akram **AFIF** (Qat)	(19) 18.11.96	2016 / Villarreal loan
14	**BURGUI**	(22) 29.10.93	2016 / Real Madrid loan
19	Carlos **CARMONA**	(29) 05.07.87	2012 / Barcelona
9	Carlos **CASTRO**	(21) 01.06.95	
24	Duje **COP** (Cro)	(26) 01.02.90	2016 / Cagliari (Ita) loan
7	Victor **RODRIGUEZ**	(27) 23.07.89	2016 / Elche
25	Borja **VIGUERA**	(29) 26.03.87	2016 / Athletic Bilbao
	Abelardo FERNANDEZ	(46) 19.04.70	2014 / Sporting Gijon B

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds: **2,500-1**

VALENCIA

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
1	**DIEGO ALVES** (Bra)	(31) 24.06.85	2011 / Almeria
13	Jaume **DOMENECH**	(25) 05.11.90	2013 / Huracan
25	Matthew **RYAN** (Aus)	(24) 08.04.92	2015 / Club Brugge (Blg)
23	Aymen **ABDENNOUR** (Tun)	(27) 06.08.89	2015 / Monaco (Fra)
2	Joao **CANCELO** (Por)	(22) 27.05.94	2015 / Benfica (Por)
24	Ezequiel **GARAY** (Arg)	(29) 10.10.86	2016 / Zenit (Rus)
14	Jose Luis **GAYA**	(21) 25.05.95	
26	**LATO**	(18) 21.11.97	
5	Eliaquim **MANGALA** (Fra)	(25) 13.02.91	2016 / Man City (Eng) loan
21	Martin **MONTOYA**	(25) 14.04.91	2016 / Barcelona
4	Aderlan **SANTOS** (Bra)	(27) 09.04.89	2015 / Braga (Por)
6	Guilherme **SIQUEIRA** (Bra)	(30) 28.04.86	2016 / At Madrid loan
16	Fede **CARTABIA** (Arg)	(23) 20.01.93	
28	**CARLOS SOLER**	(19) 02.01.97	
8	Enzo **PEREZ** (Arg)	(30) 22.02.86	2015 / Benfica (Por)
20	Alvaro **MEDRAN**	(22) 15.03.94	2016 / Real Madrid
10	Dani **PAREJO**	(27) 16.04.89	2011 / Getafe
7	Mario **SUAREZ**	(29) 24.02.87	2016 / Watford (Eng) loan
11	Zakaria **BAKKALI** (Blg)	(20) 26.01.96	2015 / PSV (Hol)
9	Munir **EL HADDADI**	(21) 01.09.95	2016 / Barcelona loan
22	Santi **MINA**	(20) 07.12.95	2015 / Celta Vigo
27	Rafa **MIR**	(19) 18.06.97	
17	**NANI** (Por)	(29) 17.11.86	2016 / Fenerbahce (Tur)
19	**RODRIGO**	(25) 06.03.91	2015 / Benfica (Por)
	(vacant)		

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
6	7

Title odds: **750-1**

Appealing...Manuel Trigueros of Villarreal

STATS

League wins	Cup wins
0	0

Title odds: **500-1**

VILLARREAL

Pos	Name	(Age) DoB	Signed / Previous club
13	**ANDRES FERNANDEZ**	(29) 17.12.86	2016 / Porto (Por)
1	Sergio **ASENJO**	(27) 28.06.89	2014 / Atletico Madrid
25	Mariano **BARBOSA** (Arg)	(32) 27.07.84	2015 / Sevilla
23	Daniele **BONERA** (Ita)	(35) 31.05.81	2015 / Milan (Ita)
11	Jaume **COSTA**	(28) 18.03.88	
12	Alvaro **GONZALEZ**	(26) 08.01.90	2016 / Espanyol
15	Bojan **JOKIC** (Sln)	(30) 17.05.86	2013 / Chievo (Ita)
2	**MARIO** Gaspar	(25) 24.11.90	
5	Mateo **MUSACCHIO** (Arg)	(26) 26.08.90	2009 / River Plate (Arg)
6	Victor **RUIZ**	(27) 25.01.89	2014 / Valencia
22	Antonio **RUKAVINA** (Ser)	(32) 26.01.84	2014 / Valladolid
21	**BRUNO**	(32) 12.06.84	
7	Denis **CHERYSHEV** (Rus)	(25) 26.12.90	2016 / Real Madrid
8	Jonathan **DOS SANTOS** (Mex)	(26) 26.04.90	2014 / Barcelona
3	**JOSE ANGEL Valdes**	(27) 05.09.89	2016 / Porto (Por)
4	Alfred **N'DIAYE** (Sen)	(26) 06.03.90	2016 / Betis
16	**RODRI**	(20) 22.06.96	
20	Roberto **SORIANO** (Ita)	(25) 08.02.91	2016 / Sampdoria (Ita)
14	Manu **TRIGUEROS**	(24) 17.10.91	
17	Cedric **BAKAMBU** (DRC)	(25) 11.04.91	2015 / Bursaspor (Tur)
24	Rafael Santos **BORRE** (Col)	(21) 15.09.95	2016 / At Madrid loan
19	Samu **CASTILLEJO**	(21) 18.01.95	2015 / Malaga
10	Alexandre **PATO** (Bra)	(27) 02.09.89	2016 / Corinthians (Bra)
18	Nicola **SANSONE** (Ita)	(25) 10.09.91	2016 / Sassuolo (Ita)
9	Roberto **SOLDADO**	(31) 27.05.85	2015 / Tottenham H (Eng)
	Fran ESCRIBA	(51) 03.05.65	2016 / Getafe

(age as of 07.10.16)

World Soccer vintage

32 years ago

November 1984

The Danish invasion

English football's latest £1 milllion export, Mark Hateley, was on the cover of the November 1984 edition of *World Soccer* following his transfer from Portsmouth to Milan. Meanwhile, inside the issue, Jim Holden focused on the Danish invasion of European club football and reported on two international friends who had become rivals at two of England's biggest clubs.

"A quiver of anticipation rose into the rainy Manchester air every time Jesper Olsen received the ball in England's battle royal – Manchester United v Liverpool," wrote Holden. "And almost every time it turned to a roar of delight as Olsen ripped past some statuesque defender or played a simple but exquisitely weighted first-time pass.

"The Old Trafford fans are already enraptured, as everyone thought they would be. Jesper Olsen, of course, with Jan Molby, is the latest foreign import to the English League, following the famous footsteps of pioneering compatriot Nils Middleboe, who played for Chelsea before World War One.

"But Olsen and Molby are hardly pioneers now as footballing Danes seeking fame and perhaps fortune abroad. At present, there are 42 of them sprinkled across the soccer world.

"The West German paper *Bild-Zeitung* has called it the 'Common Market Cocktail,' and it has certainly given a fizz to the form of the national side.

"Morten Olsen, Allan Simonsen, Frank Arnesen, Michael Laudrup – the names are familiar to football followers everywhere. But what of Mogens Fog or Jens Helmbaek or Lars Ralle? They are among the 152 Danes to have tried their luck abroad in the last 10 years alone. For every Jesper Olsen there are three who never quite made the grade."

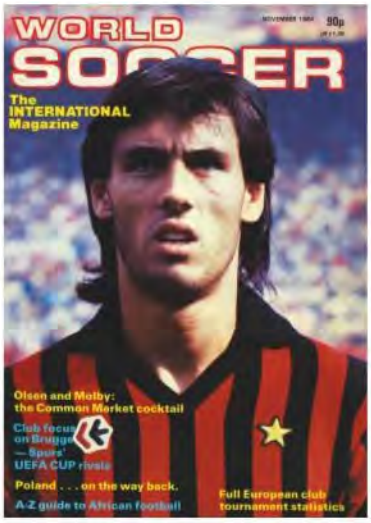
Some of those who left the semi-pro Danish league went on to play at a better standard. But as Holden explained: "Most, though, have left for a football similar to their own; played mainly on the ground, built up with passing from the back, at a slow, slow, quick, quick, slow tempo.

"Olsen and Molby, however, are having to adjust to an entirely new concept – the pace and fury of the Football League. They haven't got anywhere near a full-bloodied FA Cup tie played on a muddy January pitch yet, but both are feeling the strain.

"Olsen said: 'It will take time to fit in. Sometimes we play very well, we are passing well and creating chances. But at other times I feel left out, with the ball flying over my head all the time.'

"Molby said: 'The matches are so hard and so fast. In Holland with Ajax, and at home in Denmark, there were only a few tough matches and you could always take a rest in a game. Here in England you never can. Every game is tough and you can never feel a game is won." WS

Trailblazers... the great Danes



SIX

WORLD SOCCER, NOVEMBER 1984

FOCUS ON DENMAI

The . . . C Market

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But what of Mogens Fog or Jens Helmbaek or Lars Ralle? They

Jan Molby

DANISH CLUBS IN EUROPE

"The confusing (to outsiders) club names in Denmark mean that over the years records of which teams have appeared in European competition are wildly inaccurate. Here is a definitive list of all Danish clubs' appearances in Europe.

1955		
EC	AGF — Stade de Reims	0-2, 2-2
FAIRS	København — Barcelona	2-5, 1-1
1956		
EC	AGF — Nice	1-1, 1-5
1957		
EC	AGF — Glenavon, Nord Ireland	0-0, 3-0
	AGF — FC Sevilla	2-0, 0-4
1958		
EC	KB — Schalke 04	3-0, 2-5
	Omkamp — Holland	1-3
FAIRS	Frem — Chelsea	1-3, 1-4
1959		
EC	B 1909 — Wiener SC	0-3, 2-2
1960		
EC	AGF — Legia Warszawa	3-0, 6-1
	AGF — Frederikstad	2-0, 1-0
	AGF — Benfica	1-4, 1-3
FAIRS	KB — Basel	8-1, 3-3
	KB — Birmingham	4-4, 0-5
1961		
EC	B 1913 — Spora Luxembourg	9-2, 6-0
CWC	AGF — Werder Bremen	2-3, 0-2
FAIRS	Stævnet — Dynamo Zagreb	2-7, 2-2
1962		
EC	Esbjerg — Linfield, Nord Ireland	0-0, 2-1
	Esbjerg — Dukla Prag	0-0, 2-1
CWC	B 1909 — Alliance Luxembourg	8-1, 1-1
	B 1909 — Grazer AK	5-2, 1-1
	B 1909 — FC Nürnberg	0-1, 0-6
FAIRS	Stævnet — Hibernians	0-4, 2-3
	Odense — Drumcondra	1-4, 4-2
1963		
EC	Esbjerg — PSV Eindhoven	3-4, 1-7
CWC	B 1913 — Olympique Lyon	1-2, 1-3
FAIRS	Stævnet — Arsenal	1-7, 3-2
1964		
EC	B 1909 — Real Madrid	2-5, 0-4
CWC	Esbjerg — Cardiff City	0-0, 0-1
FAIRS	KB — Utrecht	3-4, 1-2
	B 1913 — FC Stuttgart	1-3, 0-1
1965		
EC	B 1909 — Bukarest	2-3, 0-4
CWC	AGF — Setubal, Spanien	2-1, 2-1
	AGF — Celtic	0-1, 0-2
FAIRS	B 1903 — Dunfermline	0-5, 2-4
1966		
EC	Esbjerg — Dukla Prag	0-2, 0-4
CWC	AaB — Everton	0-0, 1-2
FAIRS	Hvidovre — Eintracht Frankfurt	1-5, 2-2
	B 1909 — Napoli	1-4, 1-2
1967		
EC	Hvidovre — FC Basel	3-3, 2-1
CWC	Randers — Hamburger SV	0-2, 3-5
FAIRS	Frem — Bilbao	0-1, 2-3
1968		
EC	AB — FC Zürich	3-1, 1-2
	AB — AEK Athen	0-2, 0-0
CWC	Randers — Sliema Wanderers	5-0, 2-0
	Randers — FC Köln	0-3, 1-2
FAIRS	B 1909 — Hannover	2-3, 0-1
	KB — Leipzig	t.u.k.
1969		
EC	KB — Turun Äbo	4-2, 1-0
	KB — Benfica	2-3, 0-2
CWC	Frem — FC St Gallen	2-1, 0-1
FAIRS	Hvidovre — FC Porto	1-2, 0-2
	B 1913 — Barcelona	0-2, 0-4
1970		
EC	B 1903 — Slovan Bratislava	2-2, 1-2
CWC	AaB — Gornik Zabrze	0-1, 1-6
FAIRS	B 1901 — Hertha Berlin	2-4, 1-4
1971		
EC	B 1903 — Celtic	3-1, 0-3
CWC	B 1909 — Austria Wien	4-2, 0-3
FAIRS	AB — Dundee United	3-4, 0-1
1972		
EC	Vejle — Anderlecht	0-3, 2-4
CWC	Fremad A — FC Besa Alb	1-0, 0-0
UEFA	Hvidovre — HJK Helsinki	v.u.k.
	Hvidovre — Bor Munchengladb	1-3, 0-3
1973		
EC	Vejle — FC Nantes	2-2, 1-0
	Vejle — Celtic	0-1, 0-0
CWC	Randers — Rapid Wien	0-0, 1-2
UEFA	Næstved — Dusseldorf	2-2, 0-1
	B 1903 — AIK Stockholm	2-1, 1-1
	B 1903 — Dinamo Kiev	1-2, 0-1
1974		
EC	Hvidovre — Ruch Chorzow	0-0, 1-2
CWC	Vanløse — Benfica	1-4, 0-4
UEFA	KB — Atletico Madrid	3-2, 0-4
	Randers — Dynamo Dresden	1-1, 0-0
1975		
EC	KB — St Etienne	0-2, 1-3
CWC	Vejle — FC Den Haag	0-2, 0-2
UEFA	Holbæk — Stal Mielec	0-1, 1-2
1976		
EC	Køge — Bayern München	0-5, 1-2
CWC	Esbjerg — Bohemian Dublin	0-1, 1-2
UEFA	Næstved — Racing White	0-3, 0-4
	Holbæk — Eintracht Braunschw	1-0, 0-7
1977		
EC	B 1903 — Trabzonspor	2-0, 0-1
	B 1903 — Benfica	0-1, 0-1
CWC	Vejle — Progres, Luxembourg	9-0, 1-0
	Vejle — PAOK Saloniki	3-0, 1-3
	Vejle — Twente Enschede	0-3, 0-4
UEFA	Frem — Grasshoppers	0-2, 0-6
	KB — Dundee United	3-0, 0-1
	KB — Dinamo Tbilisi	1-4, 1-2
1978		
EC	OB — Lokomotive Sofia	2-2, 1-2
CWC	Frem — AS Nancy	2-0, 0-4
UEFA	B 1903 — Kuopio	4-4, 1-2
	Esbjerg — Kristiansand	1-0, 0-0
	Esbjerg — Kuopio	4-1, 2-0
	Esbjerg — Hertha Berlin	2-1, 0-4
1979		
	Vejle — Austria Wien	3-2, 1-1
EC	Vejle — Hajduk Split	2-1, 0-3
CWC	B 1903 — Apoel Nicosia	6-0, 1-0
	B 1903 — Valencia	2-2, 0-4
UEFA	Esbjerg — Brno	1-1, 0-6
	AGF — Stal Mielec	1-1, 1-0
	AGF — Bayern München	1-2, 1-3
1980		
EC	Esbjerg — Helmstad BK	3-2, 0-0
	Esbjerg — Spartak Moskva	3-0, 0-3
CWC	Hvidovre — Fram Reykjavik	1-0, 2-0
	Hvidovre — Feenoord	1-2, 0-1
UEFA	KB — Grasshoppers	2-5, 1-3
1981		
EC	KB — Athlone Town	1-1, 2-2
	KB — Craiova	1-0, 1-4
CWC	Vejle — FC Porto	2-1, 0-3
UEFA	Næstved — PSV Eindhoven	
1982		
EC	Hvidovre — Juventus	1-4, 3-3
CWC	B 93 — Dynamo Dresden	2-1, 2-3
	B 93 — Waterschei	0-3, 1-4
UEFA	Lyngby — IK Brage	1-2, 2-2
1983		
EC	OB — Liverpool	0-1, 0-5
CWC	B 1901 — Shakhtor Donetsk	1-5, 2-4
UEFA	B 1903 — Banik Ostrava	0-5, 1-1
1984		
EC	Lyngby — Labinoti	3-0, 3-0
	Lyngby — Sparta Praha	?, ?
CWC	KB — Fortuna Sittard	0-0, 0-3
UEFA	OB — Spartak Moscow	1-5, 1-2

"For every Jesper Olsen there are three who never quite made the grade"

WORLD SOCCER, NOVEMBER 1984 SEVEN

BY JIM HOLDEN

ommon Cocktail

are among the 152 Danes to have tried their luck abroad in the last 10 years alone. For every Jesper Olsen there are three who never quite made the grade.

Here we list the whereabouts of Danish soccer's roaming princes.

All of them have left to play a better grade of football than is available at home in the semi-professional Dannarksturneringen.

Most, though, have left for a football similar to their own; played mainly on the ground, built up with passing from the back, at a slow, slow, quick, quick, slow tempo.

Olsen and Møolby, however, are having to adjust to an entirely new concept — the pace and fury of the Football League. They haven't got anywhere near a full-blooded FA Cup tie played on a muddy January pitch yet, but both are feeling the strain.

"It is the hardest thing to adjust to", they both said separately after the United-Liverpool 1-1 draw at Old Trafford recently.

Olsen said: "It will take time to fit in. Sometimes we play very well, we are passing well and creating chances. But at other times I feel left out, with the ball flying over my head all the time. It is not my game and it is hard to get into the rhythm of it."

Møolby said: "The matches are so hard and so fast. Many teams play kick and rush. It is not good football, I think.

"In Holland with Ajax, and at home in Denmark, there were only a few tough matches. And you could always take a rest in a game. Here in England you never can. Every game is tough and you can never feel a game is won."

Møolby, a thick set, moustachioed 21-year-old, was dropped by Liverpool for the clash with Manchester United and told by manager Joe Fagan to sit in the stand and watch and learn about the commitment needed in English soccer.

Then both became the firmest of friends when teamed together at Ajax in Holland, where they shared the midfield.

Jasper Olsen

Møolby was bought as a libero, but converted by Ajax who thought him too young to play there. He agrees. "I like playing midfield most. You are more involved in the game," he said.

But last season Møolby fell from grace at Ajax, as did Olsen, who scampered home to Faxe defying club orders and putting his leg in plaster, missing the second half of the season.

United bid early for Olsen, and he set his heart on joining the club

● Continued on page 43

THE DANES ABROAD

Jesper Petersen — Homburg (Germany) ex Helsingør
Kristen Nygaard — Nimes (France) ex IHF, AZ 67
Morten Olsen — Anderlecht (Belgium) ex B 1901, Cercle, RWDM
Birger Jensen — FC Bruges (Belgium) ex B 1903
Ole Skouboe — Salonika (Greece) ex Horsens, Hvidovre, Halsingborg
Søren Skov — Hertha Berlin (Germany) ex Nyborg, OB, St Pauli, Avellino
Frank Arnesen — Anderlecht (Belgium) ex Fremad Amager, Ajax, Valencia
Søren Lerby — Bayern Munich (Germany) ex Fremad Amager, Ajax
Søren Busk — Gent (Belgium) ex Glostrup, Westfalia Herne, MVV Maastricht
Preben Elkjaer — Verona (Italy) ex Vanløse, Koln, Lokeren
Carsten Nielsen — Strasbourg (France) ex B 1903, Borussia Moenchengladbach
Flemming Pehrson — Mjallby (Sweden) ex Frem
Jan Sørensen — Twente (Holland) ex Frem, CS Bruges
Jørgen Kristensen — Wichita Wings (North America) ex Naestved, Hertha Berlin
Henrick Agerbeck — Sochaux (France) ex KB, IFK Malmø, Hertha Berlin
Søren Lindsted — Liege (Belgium), ex Holbaeck, Twente, Winterslag
Ivan Nielsen — Feyenoord (Holland) ex Fremad Amager
Kenneth Brylle — PSV Eindhoven (Holland) ex Hvidovre, Vejle, Anderlecht
John Eriksen — Mulhouse (France) ex OB, Roda Kerkrade
Stig Skoubo — Bellinzona (Switzerland) ex Silkeborg, Giubasco
Johnny Jacobsen — Willem II Tilburg (Holland) ex Fremad Amager, Feyernoord
Frank Rasmussen — Wichita Wings (North America) ex B 93
Mogens Therkildsen — Sydslesvig (Germany) ex OB, Flensburg 08, Humble
Karl Aage Hansen — Flensburg 08 (Germany) ex Aabenraa
Per Frimann — Anderlecht (Belgium) ex AB, KB
Jesper Olsen — Manchester United (England) ex Naestved, Ajax
John Michelsen — Markaryd IF (Sweden) ex Ars
Tommy Kristiansen — Willen II Tilburg (Holland) ex Herfølge, Brighton, Haarlem
Allan Ramon Olsen — Lisleby (Norway) ex AaB
Henrik Andersen — Anderlecht (Belgium) ex Fremad Amager
Jens Jørn Berteisen — Rouen (France) ex Esbjerg, Seraing
Jan Mølby — Liverpool (England) ex Kolding, Ajax
Anders Sundstrup — AZ 67 (Holland) ex Frem, Brøndby
Jan Heintze — PSV Eindhoven (Holland) ex Kastrup
Michael Birkedal — Twente (Holland) ex Slagelse, Naestved
Klaus Bergreen — Pisa (Italy) ex Lyngby
Brian Storvang — Stavanger (Norway) ex Randers Freja
John Lauridsen — Espanol (Spain) ex Esbjerg
Kim Rentved — Wichita Wings (North America) ex B 1903
Gert Jørgensen — Wacker Innsbruck (Austria) ex B 1901
Michael Laudrup — Lazio (Italy) ex Brøndby, KB
Michaek Manniche — Benfica (Portugal) ex Hvidovre

Also in this issue...

p8-9 Club Brugge, who knocked Nottingham Forest out of the UEFA Cup, were featured in a club focus. Waiting for the Belgians in the next round were holders Tottenham Hotspur.

p14-15 With Africa beginning to make its mark on the global stage, Bob Pateman produced an A-Z of all the continent's teams.

p26-27 Keir Radnedge explained the concerns over plans to stage the European Super Cup in Monte Carlo. The authorities were fearful of hooliganism, given English clubs' success in Europe.

p28 Arthur Rotmil reported on Franz Beckenbauer's first game in charge of West Germany, which ended in a 3-1 loss to Argentina. "The defeat against Argentina was a painful lesson," wrote Rotmil. "The visitors, shorn of several World Cup stars now active in Italy, not least [Diego] Maradona, are certainly not world class, but they were too good for the reticent Germans."

10 years ago Hungary's Ferenc Puskas, who was considered one of the greatest players of all time, dies at the age of 79. He played for 12 years at Honved and a further eight at Real Madrid, who he helped to win three European Cups.

20 years ago With less than three weeks to the end of the apertura championship, the Argentinian FA bans away fans from attending the last few rounds of matches following a wave of supporter-related violence throughout the country's top flight.

30 years ago The former Aberdeen and St Mirren manager Alex Ferguson takes charge of Manchester United following the sacking of Ron Atkinson. However, the new boss's first game in charge doesn't end well, with a 2-0 defeat away to Oxford United.

40 years ago Belgian ref Alfred Delcourt sends off three Torino players – Luciano Castellini, Renato Zaccarelli and Vittorio Caporale – at Borussia Monchengladbach in the European Cup. The Italian side holds out for a 0-0 draw but loses 2-1 on aggregate.

50 years ago A 19-year-old Johan Cruyff is the first Holland player to be sent off in an international. He sees red in only his second full international, a 2-1 defeat to Czechoslovakia, and is banned for 10 months by the Dutch FA.

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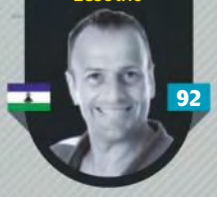

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Swiss success...Breel Embolo in action v Portugal

SEPTEMBER 1-SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

Global diary

A comprehensive record of recent events around the world

Hat-trick hero... Robert Snodgrass

Thursday September 1

ARGENTINA: Two months after changing his mind about retiring from international football, Lionel Messi scores the only goal as 10-man Argentina beat Uruguay 1-0 in a World Cup qualifier.
BELGIUM: Roberto Martinez's first game as Belgium coach ends in defeat and his side are booed off in Brussels as they lose 2-0 to Spain.
FIFA: Swiss prosecutors reveal they are investigating Franz Beckenbauer as part of a corruption inquiry into Germany winning the rights to host the 2006 World Cup.
GERMANY: Manuel Neuer is named Germany captain following Bastian Schweinsteiger's retirement from international duty.
GREECE: Giannis Gianniotas gets the winner as Greece come from behind to win 2-1 and beat Holland for the first time.
ITALY: At 17, Gianluigi Donnarumma becomes the youngest player to be capped by Italy for 105 years – and the youngest goalkeeper ever – as he replaces Gianluigi Buffon at half-time in the *Azzurri*'s 3-1 loss to France. The game makes history as the first international to use video assistant referees.
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: AFC Player of the Year Ahmed Khalil scores twice as UAE win 2-1 away to Japan in a World Cup qualifier.
USA: On the day declared as "Frank Lampard Day" by the office of city mayor Bill De Blasio, the ex-England midfielder scores twice in New York City's 3-2 victory over DC United.

Friday September 2

ENGLAND: New manager Pep Guardiola leaves Yaya Toure out of Manchester City's squad for the Champions League group stage.
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Al Nasr striker Wanderley is suspended for 60 days and AFC Champions League semi-final opponents El Jaish of Qatar are awarded a 3-0 first-leg win as it is revealed the 27-year-old, who was born in Brazil, is registered on falsified documentation.

Saturday September 3

HONDURAS: Sergio Mejia, an 18-year-old midfielder with top-flight side Plantense, dies near the club's Estadio Excelsior in Puerto Cortes when attacked by a group of 10 men.
SENEGAL: A 2-0 win at home to Namibia sees Senegal qualify for next year's African Nations Cup finals in Gabon as the only team with a 100 per cent record.

Sunday September 4

AZERBAIJAN: Ruslan Gurbanov's goal gives Azerbaijan only their second-ever competitive away win as they beat San Marino 1-0 in a World Cup qualifier.
ENGLAND: Wayne Rooney wins his 116th cap in the 1-0 victory away to Slovakia to set a new record for an England outfield player.
GHANA: Yaw Arnol scores twice as Bechem United beat second-tier Okwsawu United 2-1 to win the Ghanaian Cup for the first time and book a place in next year's CAF Confederation Cup.
ROMANIA: Nicolae Stanciu misses a penalty in the sixth minute of injury time as Romania are held to a 1-1 draw at home by Montenegro.
SCOTLAND: Robert Snodgrass gets his country's first hat-trick in a World Cup qualifier since 1969 as Scotland win 5-1 in Malta.
UGANDA: After an absence of 38 years, Uganda are back in the finals of the African Nations Cup, thanks to a 1-0 win over Comoros.

Monday September 5

EL SALVADOR: At a pre-match press conference, the El Salvador squad play an audio recording of someone allegedly offering them a bribe to fix Tuesday's World Cup qualifier against Canada.
ITALY: A 3-1 World Cup win away to Israel extends Italy's unbeaten run in qualifying games to 51 and ensures that record will now stretch to over a decade. Giorgio Chiellini is sent off for two yellow cards and will miss October's crucial game with Spain.
KOSOVO: Valon Berisha scores in a 1-1 World Cup draw in Finland as Kosovo take a point from their first competitive international at any level.
WALES: Gareth Bale goes second on the all-time list of Wales' scorers, on 24, with two goals in a 4-0 win against Moldova.

Tuesday September 6

ALBANIA: After a 15-hour delay, Bekim Balaj scores a last-minute winner as Albania beat Macedonia 2-1 in the final 14 minutes of a World Cup qualifier which kicked off the previous day but was suspended because of torrential rain in Shkoder.
GIBRALTAR: Liam Walker scores ➤

He's back...Lionel Messi scores the only goal of the game as Argentina beat Uruguay in a qualification game for the 2018 World Cup

AFRICA

MARK GLEESON

Uganda are back

Cranes reach the Nations Cup finals after four decades

Happy days... Uganda celebrate

The final round of qualifiers to determine places in next year's African Nations Cup finals provided yet another snapshot of the two extremes of the game on the continent: the unbridled joy that comes with long-awaited success and a darker side where barely believable scenarios continue to cast aspersions on the validity of results.

Uganda were runners-up at the 1978 finals but since then they have failed with regular monotony to qualify. In recent attempts they have come agonisingly close, no more so than ahead of the 2013 finals when they lost a penalty shoot-out to defending champions Zambia.

But after almost four decades they return to the top table having secured their place on the last weekend of the preliminaries with a home win over Comoros.

Farouk Miya, recently signed by Standard Liege, scored the only goal of the game at Kampala's Nelson Mandela Stadium to set off heart-warming celebrations for a country that has long lusted after a finals place.

The Cranes, who are also in the group phase of the 2018 World Cup qualifiers, have been a work in progress for some time now, first under Scottish coach Bobby Williamson and then Serbian boss Milutin Sredojevic.

Uganda actually finished second in their group, but they took one of the two berths reserved for the best runners-ups in the 13 groups. They finished behind Burkina Faso on head-to-head results after both gained 13 points. But while Uganda's qualification proved a bright point, Burkina Faso advanced in the most dubious of circumstances.

Having to win at home to Botswana to qualify, Burkina Faso secured a 2-1 victory with virtually the last kick of the game as the referee seemed to play on for an eternity.

"Nine minutes of stoppage time was shown at the end of the game but 11 were actually played," says Botswana coach Peter Butler, whose side were down to nine men by then. "My goalkeeper got punched by their centre-forward and yet he was sent off and not the striker.

"I'm not one for blaming referees, but in African football I've learnt that nothing surprises anymore.

"The 11 minutes of added time paints the picture, but I wish Burkina Faso well. My players were magnificent. I was very proud of the way we played."

Threat...Burkina Faso's Bertrand Traore against Botswana

Defending champions Ivory Coast also looked fortunate to qualify, although any evidence to the contrary was quickly buried by the bias of their own television coverage.

They seemed to be handed an easy group and in their last game needed just to avoid defeat at home to Sierra Leone in what seemed a routine assignment. But without Yaya Toure and Wilfried Bony the Elephants looked somewhat light on match-winning talent.

Although they were 1-0 up at half-time, the Ivorians were pegged back midway through the second half when Sierra Leone striker Kei Kamara equalised. It was no more than the Leone Stars deserved as they sought an unlikely win that would have put them into the finals.

> "I'm not one for blaming referees, but in African football I've learnt that nothing surprises anymore"
> Botswana coach Peter Butler

The last action of the game was a Sierra Leone corner, followed by a header which they felt had crossed the line. However, the referee disagreed and blew his whistle immediately to end the game, allowing Ivory Coast to squeeze into the finals. Local television coverage then concentrated on muted home celebrations rather than offering any slow motion replays that might have helped determine whether the ball had crossed the line or not.

Democratic Republic of Congo, Togo and Tunisia grabbed the other three places that were up for grabs on the last weekend of qualifiers.

Togo were the other side to benefit from a good second-placed finish, having looked all but eliminated at the midway point. They hired veteran French coach Claude Le Roy to revive their campaign and, after persuading Emmanuel Adebayor to rejoin the cause, fashioned an against-the-odds achievement.

Le Roy will now extend his record as the coach with the most Nations Cup finals appearances as he heads to his ninth tournament. WS

Gibraltar's first goal in a World Cup game as they lose 4-1 to Greece.
URUGUAY: Luis Suarez's penalty in Uruguay's 4-0 victory over Paraguay sees him become the joint-second highest South American goalscorer in World Cup qualifiers with 18 – one behind former Argentina striker Hernan Crespo.

Wednesday September 7

UEFA: Angel Maria Villar pulls out of next week's presidential election.

Thursday September 8

SPAIN: FIFA rejects appeals from Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid against their respective transfer bans, which means both will be barred from registering players for the next two windows.

Friday September 9

CHINA: Shandong Luneng's Jin Jingdao is provisionally suspended for 60 days after the midfielder tested positive for clenbuterol before the first leg of his side's AFC Champions League quarter-final against Seoul in August.
FIFA: The independent Ethics Committee opens formal proceedings against Sepp Blatter, Jerome Valcke and Markus Kattner in relation to numerous alleged violations of the FIFA Code of Ethics.
ITALY: Serie A officials announce that this December's Italian Super Cup, between league champions Juventus and beaten Cup finalists Milan, will be held in Qatar for the second time.

Saturday September 10

CROATIA: Dinamo Zagreb lose at home in the league for the first time in 103 games, since July 2010, going down 1-0 to Osijek.
GERMANY: Coming off the bench, Joel Pohjanpalo scores twice in stoppage time to complete his hat-trick and give Bayer Leverkusen a 3-1 victory over Hamburg.
RUSSIA: CSKA Moscow beat Terek Grozny 3-0 in the first game at their new Arena CSKA home.
SCOTLAND: Moussa Dembele scores Celtic's first hat-trick in an Old Firm league game since 1966 as they beat Rangers 5-1. Dundee United goalkeeper Cammy Bell saves three penalties in his side's 3-1 win in the second tier against Dunfermline.
SPAIN: Alaves win 2-1 away to Barcelona and end the hosts' 10-game winning run.

Sunday September 11

FRANCE: On loan from Liverpool, ➤

Australia

SIMON HILL

Timmy to the rescue

New A-League kicks off with an Aussie superstar in tow

Ronny, Leo, Zizou, Becks...being known by one name – or a nickname – appears to be one of the measures of greatness for a footballer. And while he might not be in the same register globally as those listed above, mention "Timmy" in Australia and no one is in any doubt as to the player in question.

Tim Cahill has undoubtedly usurped Harry Kewell as the nation's best-ever. If Kewell had the skill, Cahill has had the impact, goals and, crucially, the longevity.

And now, at the age of 36, he will finally grace the domestic A-League as it kicks off on October 7.

Cahill's arrival at Melbourne City, by virtue of the new "marquee guest" rule may put some extra bums on seats, but the move hasn't found favour with everyone.

Some rival clubs believe the financial assistance being provided by Football Federation Australia (FFA) is not only unnecessary – the club are hardly short of cash, being owned by the City Football Group – but also has the potential to skew the competition towards the big-city outfits, which are more likely to be able to entice superstars than, say, Central Coast Mariners.

However, FFA probably feels it has little choice. With a new broadcasting deal currently being negotiated, the domestic game needs to drive up crowds and TV ratings in order to create some competitive tension in the market place; tension that has barely existed in the 11 years of the nascent league.

Money has therefore been set aside to help clubs bring in big names to the competition, with the new rule created to guard against such clubs having to fill their regular marquee slots with players signed as much for their commercial appeal as their playing ability.

Cahill, of course, has the potential to fulfil both roles, although City's regular marquee signing, Argentinian winger Nino Colazo, on loan from Boca Juniors, is tipped to make an exciting contribution. Cahill's broader popularity was evident when he put a thousand on the gate at Brisbane Strikers when making his City debut in an FFA Cup tie. But what constitutes a player to be a "star" is already causing friction.

Cross-town rivals Melbourne Victory tested the waters but were refused funding to help bring in ex-Italy striker Alessandro Diamanti. It's a balancing act they must get right, not only for the sake of the TV deal, but also to keep the peace with clubs who want more autonomy in how the league is run.

Perhaps the clubs' case would be helped by better leadership in their own boardrooms.

Brisbane Roar, for example, have endured another nightmare pre-season as the Bakrie family continue to mismanage one of the A-League's most successful

Cahill's arrival at Melbourne City may put some extra bums on seats, but the move hasn't found favour with everyone

Welcome...Tim Cahill with new Melbourne City team-mate Corey Gameiro

outfits. Their appointment of Melbourne-based Daniel Cobb as managing director ended in tears and recriminations when unimpressed coaching staff effectively issued an ultimatum of "him or us."

Cobb was removed, but supporters are tired of the *Groundhog Day*-type saga and want the Bakries out. However, FFA remains reluctant to move in on the licence, particularly when they have only just alleviated one significant financial burden by selling Newcastle Jets to Chinese businessman Martin Lee.

Lee's tenure hit the rocks early when he replaced coach Scott Miller with Mark Jones just a few weeks before the start of the season.

Similarly, Mariners parted company with Tony Walmsley after they crashed out of the FFA Cup to State Federation side Green Gully. Ex-Socceroo Paul Okon has now taken charge. WS

Shock...Green Gully's Liam Bolland scores in the FFA Cup

➤ Mario Balotelli scores twice on his debut as Nice beat Marseille 3-2. Ex-Burkina Faso international Ben Idrissa Derme dies during a French Cup tie after suffering a heart attack playing for amateur side Biguglia.

ITALY: Francesco Totti scores for a 23rd consecutive Serie A campaign, grabbing a last-minute winner from the penalty spot as Roma beat Sampdoria 3-2. Extreme weather sees Genoa's game with Fiorentina abandoned after 28 minutes.

Monday September 12

ENGLAND: Romelu Lukaku scores an 11-minute hat-trick as Everton win 3-0 at Sunderland.

SPAIN: Former Barcelona handball star Oscar Grau is named CEO of the football club, replacing Nacho Mestre as the most senior executive at Camp Nou.

Tuesday September 13

GERMANY: Bayern Munich set a Champions League record with a 13th consecutive home win, beating Rostov of Russia 5-0. Borussia Monchengladbach's game at Manchester City is postponed until Wednesday due to the weather.

MEXICO: Hirving Lozano is on target four times as Pachuca beat Police United of Belize 11-0 and run up a new record score in the CONCACAF Champions League.

SPAIN: Lionel Messi scores a record sixth Champions League hat-trick as Barcelona win 7-0 and inflict Celtic's heaviest-ever European defeat.

USA: Dallas win the US Open Cup for a second time, beating New England Revolution 4-2 in the Final.

VANUATO: A 2-1 win over Solomon Islands in the OFC Under-20 semi-finals sees Vanuatu qualify for their maiden FIFA tournament finals – next year's Under-20 World Cup.

Wednesday September 14

ENGLAND: Tottenham Hotspur record the biggest-ever attendance in any competition for an English club playing at home, but the 85,011 crowd at Wembley see Monaco win 2-1 in the Champions League.

GERMANY: Borussia Dortmund win 6-0 at Legia Warsaw – their biggest away victory in Europe.

QATAR: El Jaish beat Al Nasr of the United Arab Emirates to reach the semi-finals of the AFC Champions League for the first time.

SPAIN: Trailing 1-0 to Portugal's Sporting with a minute remaining, Champions League holders Real Madrid win with goals from Cristiano Ronaldo and Alvaro Morata.

UEFA: Aleksander Ceferin is ➤

➤ UEFA's new president, beating Michael Van Praag by 42 votes to 13 to succeed Michel Platini.

Thursday September 15

CZECH REPUBLIC: Jan Sykora's goal inside 11 seconds for Slovan Liberec in their 2-2 draw with Qarabag in Azerbaijan is the quickest-ever in the Europa League.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Dundalk make history as the first Irish team to pick up a point in a European group game with a 1-1 away to AZ.
RUSSIA: Losing 3-0 to Maccabi Tel-Aviv in Israel with 14 minutes left to play, Zenit come back to win their opening Europa League game 4-3.
UEFA: The NSK Olimpiyskiy Stadium in Kiev will host the 2018 Champions League Final, while Estonia's Lillekula stadium in Estonia will stage the 2018 UEFA Super Cup. Theodore Theodoridis is confirmed as UEFA's permanent general secretary.

Friday September 16

ENGLAND: Antonio Conte loses his first game as boss of Chelsea, going down 2-1 at home to Liverpool.
SPAIN: Real Madrid tells the Court of Arbitration for Sport it will appeal against FIFA's ban on signing players.

Saturday September 17

ENGLAND: Gareth Barry plays his 600 Premier League game as Everton beat Middlesbrough 3-1 at home and move back to second place in the League.
SPAIN: Lionel Messi's two goals in Barcelona's 5-1 win against Leganes mean he is the first player to score in 34 different La Liga stadiums.

Sunday September 18

ITALY: Internazionale come from behind to beat Juventus 2-1 in the Derby d'Italia with goals from Mauro Icardi and Ivan Perisic.
USA: Landon Donovan comes out of retirement and scores his first MLS goal in almost two years as LA Galaxy draw 2-2 with Sporting Kansas City.

Monday September 19

POLAND: Defending champions Legia Warsaw sack Besnik Hasi after just two wins from their first nine league games and a 6-0 loss at home to Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League fixture last week.
SCOTLAND: Rangers suspend Joey Barton for three weeks following a row with team-mate Andy Halliday in the aftermath of their 5-1 loss at Celtic on September 10.
VENEZUELA: Six armed men hold up the bus taking top-flight ➤

India

JOHN DUERDEN

ISL all set to be No1

Super League ready to take over from I-League

The Indian Super League (ISL) kicked off at the start of October ahead of a dramatic shake-up that will see it usurp the I-League as the country's main competition, perhaps as early as 2018.

In May, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) unveiled plans to add two more sides to the eight-team ISL, which will then become a national top flight with no relegation to the I-League, which will become the second tier. And while the AIFF's vision has not been universally acclaimed, there is little doubt that the I-League, which was established in 2007, is struggling with attendances as low as its profile.

I-League clubs complain that IMG-Reliance, the AIFF's commercial partner, have not done enough to promote their competition. But while that is a matter for debate, what is not is that IMG-Reliance have been a major driving force behind the ISL.

The ISL has everything that its older brother does not, with its eight franchises owned by intriguing combinations of businessmen, cricket stars, European football clubs and Bollywood actors. And while that initially put the competition in the news, the arrival ahead of the big kick-off of players such as Alessandro Del Piero and Robert Pires, and coaches Zico, Marco Materazzi and David James, helped to keep it there.

The average attendance that first season was over 24,000 and grew to more than 27,000 in 2015. The Indian media never tires of referring to it as the fourth most-watched football league in the world.

Originally, the ISL was touted as a complimentary competition that the I-League would supply with players during in its close season. As well as increasing earnings for the players, the ISL was supposed to help improve the facilities for all – something that has held the domestic football scene back over the years.

Local hero...Mumbai City and India striker Sunil Chhetri (centre)

Yet, with its average attendance more than five times higher than that of the I-League, the ISL always had a chance of becoming number one. The I-League may have historic clubs such as Kolkata giants East Bengal and Mohun Bagan – whose derby can attract 100,000 fans – but even they struggle to compete with the stars of Delhi Dynamos and Mumbai City.

To make matters worse, the 2015-16 I-League featured just nine teams after three withdrew. Pune and Bharat cited a lack of long-term vision, with Royal Wahingdoh following suit in what was a major blow and helped smooth the way for the AIFF's proposal.

Fans of the ISL won't care too much as they

Champions... Chennaiyin celebrate beating Goa in last year's ISL Final

prepare for another season of marquee signings and a mixture of foreign and local talent. And if the 2016 season starts in a similar vein to how the 2015 campaign ended, they will be in for a treat.

Goa and Chennaiyin met in the Final in front of almost 20,000 fans and with three minutes remaining, Zico's Goa took a 2-1 lead. However, two injury-time strikes from Chennai, led by Materazzi, gave the visitors a first title.

Zico and Materazzi are back this season, while Gianluca Zambrotta has taken charge at Delhi Dynamos. And there is a British flavour at Kerala Blasters, who finished last in 2015, with Steve Coppell taking the reins of a side that has Northern Ireland veteran Aaron Hughes as the marquee and Michael Chopra up front.

While the ISL champions will be determined in December, the questions of how the future of Indian football will be organised will take longer to settle.

The AIFF and Asian Football Confederation set up a joint task force in August to answer questions such as how can Mohun Bagan and East Bengal co-exist in Kolkata when playing at the same time as ISL team Atletico de Kolkata? And how will the short-term ISL, in which some owners are struggling with financial losses, extend to become a genuine season-long competition?

Those problems may take a while to resolve, but for the next few weeks attention up and down India will be fixed firmly on the third edition of the ISL. WS

ISL MARQUEE PLAYERS

HELDER POSTIGA
Atletico de Kolkata

JOHN ARNE RIISE
Chennaiyin

FLORENT MALOUDA
Delhi Dynamos

LUCIO
Goa

AARON HUGHES
Kerala Blasters

DIEGO FORLAN
Mumbai City

DIDIER ZOKORA
NorthEast United

EIDUR GUDJOHNSEN
Pune City

➤ Trujillanos home from their 2-1 defeat at Monagas and rob players and club staff.

Tuesday September 20

ENGLAND: Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola says he will not pick Yaya Toure until the midfielder's agent, Dimitri Seluk, apologises for criticising the decision to omit the 33-year-old from the starting line-up.
GERMANY: Borussia Dortmund make it 17 goals in their last three games with a 5-1 win at Wolfsburg.
SPAIN: The niece of Spanish Football Association president Angel Maria Villar is found dead after she was kidnapped in Mexico. Maria Villar Galaz had been missing since September 13.

Wednesday September 21

FRANCE: Monaco lose 4-0 at Nice in the Cote d'Azur derby as Mario Balotelli makes it four goals in two games for the new Ligue 1 leaders.
HOLLAND: Willem II midfielder Anouar Kali makes history in the 5-0 loss at Ajax as the first player to be sent off by a video-assistant referee.
RUSSIA: Champions League sides CSKA Moscow and Rostov lose 2-1 and 4-0 to lower-league opposition Yenisey Krasnoyarsk and Dynamo Moscow in the Russian Cup.
SIERRA LEONE: Ex-international midfielder Mamadu Bah, who was capped 35 times by Sierra Leone, dies in a road traffic accident in Freetown at the age of 39.
SPAIN: Villarreal draw 1-1 with Real Madrid and deny them a Liga-record 17th successive victory.
TURKEY: Antalyaspor drop Samuel Eto'o until further notice after the 35-year-old Cameroonian striker wrote on his Instagram account: "Perhaps some people do not feel respect for me because I am black."

Thursday September 22

SPAIN: The day after they sacked Pako Ayestaran, Valencia win for the first time this season, beating Alaves 2-1 under interim coach Voro.

Friday September 23

ENGLAND: Burnley forward Andre Gray is suspended for four games for homophobic comments made on Twitter in 2012.
FIFA: Former Holland striker and coach Marco Van Basten is appointed FIFA's Chief Officer for Technical Development, heading up all technical areas ranging from football technology innovation to refereeing.
FRANCE: Paris Saint-Germain lose 2-0 at Toulouse and have now been beaten twice in their ➤

World Cup Qualifiers

GAVIN HAMILTON

Road to Russia

Portugal begin with a setback

In the first round of European qualifiers for the 2018 World Cup in Russia, there were some notable results for a number of newly appointed coaches, as well as embarrassment for recently crowned continental champions Portugal.

For their opening group game against Switzerland, in Basle, the Portuguese were without injured captain Cristiano Ronaldo for their first competitive game since beating France in the Final of Euro 96.

First-half goals from Breel Embolo, a header following Rui Patricio's parry of a Ricardo Rodriguez free-kick, and a curling shot from Admir Mehmedi into the top-right corner were enough to give the Swiss a comfortable victory, although Nani did strike a post for the visitors in the 82nd minute with a header.

Portugal's defeat was their first in 15 competitive games under coach Fernando Santos, who took over in the autumn of 2014 after Paulo Bento was fired following a 1-0 loss at home to Albania in the side's opening Euro qualifier.

Elsewhere in Europe, there were wins for the new men in charge of Spain, Italy, Belgium and England.

Sam Allardyce's first game as manager of England proved to be his last, although the 1-0 win in Slovakia, thanks to Adam Lallana's injury-time goal, meant he left the job with a 100 per cent record. The victory in Trnava came in what is arguably the most difficult fixture of England's qualifying campaign, and caretaker boss Gareth Southgate will now take charge of the next four games: qualifiers against Malta, Slovenia and Scotland, plus a friendly with Spain.

Spain's new coach Julen Lopetegui oversaw the 8-0 thrashing of Liechtenstein in his first competitive game in charge, with a hat-trick for David Silva and two apiece for Diego Costa and Alvaro Morata. Goalkeeper Iker Casillas was omitted from Lopetegui's first squad, while their were recalls for Juan Mata and Paco Alcacer, and first call-ups for Real Madrid's Marco Asensio and West Ham United keeper Adrian.

High point...Hekuran Kryeziu (left) in Kosovo's World Cup debut

Beaten...Portugal keeper Rui Patricio in Switzerland

Spain, with two goals from David Silva, also beat Belgium 2-0 in a friendly in Brussels, where Roberto Martinez took charge for the first time, along with his surprise choice as assistant, Thierry Henry. Five days later, Romelu Lukaku scored twice as *Les Diables Rouges* won 3-0 in Cyprus in a World Cup qualifier, with Yannick Ferreira Carrasco adding the third goal.

Italy kicked off a new era under Giampiero Ventura with a 3-1 friendly loss to France in Bari but won their opening World Cup qualifier, in Israel, in impressive style, triumphing 3-1 with goals from Graziano Pelle, Antonio Candreva and Ciro Immobile.

Other newcomers were not so successful, as Karel Jarolim's Czech Republic drew 0-0 with Northern Ireland in Prague, Christoph Daum's Romania were held 1-1 by Montenegro in Cluj, Sweden drew 1-1 under Janne Andersson with Holland in Solna, and Andriy Shevchenko's Ukraine drew 1-1 with Iceland in Kiev.

Other Euro 2016 finalists who suffered disappointing results included Hungary, who could only draw 0-0 away to Faroe Islands, and France, who were held to a goalless draw in Belarus.

Kosovo made history with their first-ever World Cup

qualifier and earned a deserved 1-1 draw in Finland. Paulus Arajuuri gave the Finns an early lead, but Valon Berisha grabbed a point from the penalty spot.

World Cup hosts Russia won their first game under new boss Stanislav Cherchesov, beating Ghana 1-0 in a friendly in Moscow.

In South America, Brazil bounced back from a poor start to the qualifying campaign with wins in Tite's first two games in charge.

Gabriel Jesus marked his debut with two goals and an assist in the 3-0 win over Ecuador, and also impressed in a 2-1 away win in Colombia. Brazil were the only South American team to win both of their matches in the September round of qualifiers, while their victory in Colombia was the only away win over the two rounds of matches.

Lionel Messi returned from his brief, post Copa Centenario America retirement to lead Argentina to a 1-0 win over 10-man Uruguay. He scored the only goal of that game but was absent a few days later against Venezuela, who took a two-goal lead before Lucas Pratto and Nicolas Otamendi salvaged a point for Argentina.

Those two dropped points meant Uruguay, 4-0 victors over Paraguay, took over at the top of the South American qualifying table.

In CONCACAF, Honduras and Trinidad & Tobago completed the line-up for the six-team final qualifying round, joining the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica and Panama. However, the final round of games were hit by allegations of match-fixing, with FIFA looking into claims that El Salvador players had been offered money to avoid a heavy defeat to Canada in their final group game.

> "We want to make it clear we are against anything of this kind"
>
> El Salvador captain Nelson Bonilla, on being offered financial inducements

Honduras went into the final round of matches three points clear of Canada, and with a superior goal difference, but a defeat for Honduras against leaders Mexico and a heavy win for Canada against El Salvador could have changed the final standings.

El Salvador captain Nelson Bonilla told a pre-match news conference in Vancouver that a Salvadoran businessman had approached the players. He played a tape of a 10-minute conversation in which varying amounts of money were offered, depending on the result and the contributions of individual players.

"In reference to what we heard, we want to make it clear we are against anything of this kind," Bonilla said.

In the end El Salvador's 3-1 defeat to Canada proved academic as Honduras drew 0-0 with Mexico to finish a point ahead of Canada. WS

➤ opening seven Ligue 1 fixtures – matching their total number of defeats last term.

GERMANY: Borussia Dortmund beat Freiburg 3-1 to equal a club record of 24 home Bundesliga matches without defeat.

Saturday September 24

ARGENTINA: Velez Sarsfield coach Christian Bassedas resigns after a 3-0 home defeat by Racing Club sparks a violent reaction by fans.

ENGLAND: Tony Pulis takes charge of his 1,000th game as a manager as West Bromwich Albion draw 1-1 with one of his former sides, Stoke City. Arsenal beat Chelsea 3-0 with goals from Alexis Sanchez, Theo Walcott and Mesut Ozil.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich maintain their 100 per cent start to the league season with a 1-0 win at Hamburg.

HOLLAND: Second-half sub Siem De Jong plays alongside his brother Luuk for the first time as PSV win 3-1 at Excelsior and set an Eredivisie record of 13 straight away wins.

MOROCCO: Trailing 4-0 from the first leg away to Zamalek in Egypt, Wydad almost stage a remarkable recovery, leading 5-1 in the return before losing 6-5 on aggregate.

PORTUGAL: Benfica's 2-0 victory at Chaves is their 15th successive away victory in the league.

SCOTLAND: Summer signing Scott Sinclair keeps up his record of scoring in every league game so far as Celtic beat Kilmarnock 6-1.

Sunday September 25

ALGERIA: Faouzi Rahal's stoppage-time equaliser puts MO Bejaia in the Final of the CAF Confederation Cup at the expense of Moroccan hosts FUS Rabat on the away goals rule after a 1-1 tie on aggregate.

CZECH REPUBLIC: Slavia Prague beat Sparta Prague 2-0 in the 286th Czech capital derby.

GERMANY: A 2-1 loss at Hoffenheim means Schalke are without a point after five games – their worst start to a season in 49 years. At 20, Timo Werner became the youngest player to make 100 Bundesliga appearances as RB Leipzig draw 1-1 at Cologne.

HOLLAND: Eredivisie leaders Feyenoord beat Roda 5-0 to keep up their record of having won every competitive game they have played so far this season.

ISRAEL: Maccabi Tel-Aviv increase their lead at the top of the table with a 5-0 thrashing of arch-rivals Hapoel Tel-Aviv.

ITALY: Francesco Totti becomes only the second player, after Silvio Piola, to score 250 goals in Serie ➤

➤ A, reaching the mark in Roma's 3-1 loss to Torino. Giovanni Simeone, who is the son of Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone, scores his first goal in the Italian top flight as Genoa draw 1-1 at home to Pescara.
SPAIN: Diego Alves makes his 17th penalty save – a new record for La Liga – as Valencia beat Leganes 2-1.

Monday September 26

FRANCE: Paris Saint-Germain defender Serge Aurier is sentenced to two months in jail for elbowing a police officer in an incident at a Paris nightclub in May, but will remain free pending an appeal.
RUSSIA: Vitaly Mutko is re-elected as president of the Russian Football Union. Mutko was formerly president from 2005 to 2009 and returned to the helm 12 months ago.

Tuesday September 27

ENGLAND: Sam Allardyce leaves his role as England manager after being caught on camera offering to help reporters – who were posing as businessmen – to get around FA rules on third-party ownership.
UAE: Al Ain win 3-1 in the home leg of their AFC Champions League semi-final against El Jaish of Qatar.
USA: Clint Dempsey's availability for the United States' upcoming World Cup qualifiers is in doubt as he must undergo "medical evaluations" of an irregular heartbeat.

Wednesday September 28

ENGLAND: Manchester City draw 3-3 away to Celtic in the Champions League and fail to equal Tottenham Hotspur's record of 11 wins in a row at the start of the 1960-61 season.
SOUTH KOREA: Jeonbuk Motors move to within sight of the AFC Champions League Final with a 4-1 win over Seoul in the home leg of their semi-final.
SPAIN: In a repeat of last season's semi-final, Atletico Madrid beat Bayern Munich 1-0 in the Champions League to end coach Carlo Ancelotti's eight-game winning start.

Thursday September 29

JAMAICA: Theodore Whitmore will take temporary charge of Jamaica for upcoming Caribbean Cup games.
POLAND: Legia Warsaw must play their Champions League home game against Real Madrid behind closed doors after crowd trouble during their 6-0 loss to Borussia Dortmund.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Dundalk beat Maccabi Tel-Aviv 1-0 to become the first team from the Republic of Ireland to win in a European group stage game. WS

Lesotho

STEVE MENARY

Cup offers new hope

Continental tournament brings improved performances

In this summer's COSAFA Cup – an annual tournament for national teams from southern Africa – Lesotho showed tantalising signs of improvement after a dismal recent run. They won all three group games, only to lose on penalties in the quarter-finals to neighbours South Africa, after a poor African Nations Cup qualifying campaign and elimination from the 2018 World Cup qualifiers in the first round.

Although Lesotho have never featured in a major tournament, several of the side from the 1990s did play professionally in South Africa, but these days very few manage to ply their trade abroad.

One of those who does is Sunny Jane, who plays for Richmond Kickers in the USA third-tier and scored for Lesotho in a 2-1 Nations Cup qualifying win over Seychelles in March. However, club commitments saw the 25-year-old striker miss the COSAFA Cup.

Jane was one of four players taken to play college football in the US by Louisville City assistant coach Thabane Sutu, who was a member of the Lesotho side that beat Cameroon 2-0 in qualifying for the 1996 Nations Cup before a row over wages saw key players side-lined and the team pull out of the tournament.

"The same problem persists," explains Sutu. "Some teams we used to beat handily when I was playing have caught up with us or even surpassed us. Botswana, Swaziland, Namibia, Angola, are definitely ahead of us. We used to beat these nations very easily in the 1990s.

"The biggest problem is we don't really have any corporate sponsorships or involvement, so our players are still part-timers.

"Our league standards have plummeted. I don't think our level of coaching is on par with the rest of the continent. We've got a long, long way to go."

But Leslie Notsi, who coached Lesotho from 2011 to 2013, is slightly more optimistic, arguing: "It is possible for Lesotho to qualify for an African Cup of Nations, but a lot of things has to happen.

"We need most of our players playing outside Lesotho so they can bring experience, consistency and confidence to the team.

"The [domestic] Premier League has to turn professional, or at least semi-professional, and the league has to have more cup games in all divisions to give the players more game time to improve the standard of the game."

After a spell in South Africa, Notsi is back in Lesotho working for Kick4Life (K4L), which is a charity that also fields a Premier League team.

The league has 14 teams, with Lioli – whose president, Lebohang Thotanyana, is also minister for mining – are traditionally the strongest, and only clubs connected to the state – army, police and correctional services – have full-time players, who are essentially civil servants.

> **"People will be able to come and watch matches and get tested"**
> Chris Bullock on plans for a national stadium with purpose-built HIV testing laboratories

Founded in 2005 by brothers Steve and Pete Fleming, K4L subsequently bought out second-tier side Little Flower and currently share the national stadium with Lioli. K4L combines social work, notably aids awareness, with football and is working with the Lesotho Football Association on a GOAL project application to FIFA to build a stadium, with two artificial pitches and purpose-built HIV testing laboratories by 2017.

"People will be able to come and watch matches and get tested," explains K4L FC director Chris Bullock.

As for the playing side of things, Bullock readily admits: "The problem is that there are players of talent but they have never had the right level of coaching and were missing the basic techniques.

"Our idea is that a good percentage will get scholarships in the United States, or play at a high level in South Africa or Lesotho and get professional contracts." WS

Local clash...Kick4Life (in blue) take on Mphatlalatsane at the LCS ground in Maseru

Internationals

2018 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

ASIA section

● *4.5 finals places available*

3rd round

Group A

Sep1 - Tehran
Iran 2 (Ghoochannejhad 90+4, Jahanbakhsh 90+11)
Qatar 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 78,000. **Ref:** Perera (Sri)
Iran: Beiranvand - Montazeri, Rezaeian, Hosseini, Dejagah (Amiri 69), Teymourian, Ezatolahi, Hajsafi, Azmoun (Ansarifard 84), Jahanbakhsh, Taremi (Ghoochannejhad 76).
Qatar: Lecomte - Khoukhi, Hassan, Pedro Miguel (Musa 76), Yasser, Tabata (Afif 70), Assadalla, Boudiaf, Luiz Martin, Al Haidos (Kasola 90), Soria.

Sep1 - Seoul
South Korea 3 (Zheng Zhi og 21, Lee Chung-yong 63, Koo Ja-cheol 66)
China 2 (Yu Hai 74, Hao Junmin 77)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 51,238. **Ref:** Abdulla Hassan (UAE)
South Korea: Jung Sung-ryong - Oh Jae-suk, Kim Kee-hee, Hong Jeong-ho, Jang Hyun-soo, Han Kook-young, Ki Sung-yueng, Lee Chung-yong (Lee Jae-sung 83), Koo Ja-cheol (Hwang Hee-chan 79), Son Heung-min (Jung Woo-young 90+1), Ji Dong-won.
China: Zeng Cheng - Feng Xiaoting, Li Xuepeng, Ren Hang, Zhang Linpeng (Zhao Mingjian 70), Huang Bowen, Sun Ke (Gao Lin 78), Wu Xi (Hao Junmin 46), Yu Hai, Zheng Zhi, Wu Lei.

Sep1 - Tashkent
Uzbekistan 1 (Geynrikh 74)
Syria 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 29,100. **Ref:** Sato (Jap)
Uzbekistan: Lobanov - Tukhtakhodjaev, Shukurov, Ismailov, Denisov, Haydarov (Sokhibov 67), Djeparov, O Akhmedov, Shomurodov, Sergeev, Rashidov (Geynrikh 56).
Syria: Alma - Al Shbli, O Midani, Al Salih, Ajan, Z Midani, Al Hussain (Mohtadi 84), Al Mawas, Mido (Mobayed 69), Sabagh (Omari 62), Khribin.

Sep 6 - Shenyang
China 0
Iran 0
Att: 35,776. **Ref:** Makhadmeh (Jor)
China: Zeng Cheng (Gu Chao 12) - Feng Xiaoting, Zhao Mingjian, Ren Hang, Li Xuepeng, Zhang Linpeng, Yu Hai, Huang Bowen (Zhang Xizhe 55), Hao Junmin, Wu Lei, Zhang Yuning (Sun Ke 79).
Iran: Beiranvand - Mohammadi, Rezaeian, Montazeri (Hosseini 23), Teymourian, Pouraliganji, Amiri (Torabi 73), Ezatolahi, Shojaei (Ghoochannejhad 76), Azmoun, Jahanbakhsh.

Sep 6 - Doha
Qatar 0
Uzbekistan 1 (Krimets 86)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,898. **Ref:** Abdulnabi (Bhn)
Qatar: Barry - Hassan (Pedro Miguel 81), Yasser, Musa, Boudiaf, El Sayed, Khoukhi, Tabata (Assadalla 63), Al Haidos (I Mohammad 73), Afif, Soria.
Uzbekistan: Lobanov - Tukhtakhodjaev, Krimets, Ismailov, Denisov, Rashidov (Geynrikh 59), Shukurov, O Akhmedov, Shomurodov, Djeparov (Sokhibov 82), Sergeev.

Sep 6 - Seremban, Malaysia
Syria 0
South Korea 0
Att: 4,350. **Ref:** Beath (Aus)
Syria: Alma - Al Shbli, Al Baour, Al Salih, Ajan, Al Mawas, Z Midani, Mobayed (O Midani 90+9), Kalfa (Omari 87), Al Hussain (Jenyat 78), Mohtadi.
South Korea: Kim Seung-gyu - Oh Jae-suk, Kim Young-gwon, Jang Hyun-soo, Lee Yong, Han Kook-young, Ki Sung-yueng, Lee Chung-yong, Koo Ja-cheol (Kwon Chang-hoon 75), Lee Jae-sung (Hwang Hee-chan 67), Ji Dong-won.

WC QUALS – ASIA – 3RD ROUND: GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Uzbekistan	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Iran	2	1	1	0	2	0	4
South Korea	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
China	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Syria	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Qatar	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

Group B

Sep1 - Perth
Australia 2 (Luongo 58, Juric 64)
Iraq 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,923. **Ref:** Faghani (Irn)
Australia: Ryan - Milligan, Smith, Degenek, Sainsbury, Rogic, Mooy, Luongo (Irvine 78), Jedinak, Leckie (Giannou 85), Juric (Kruse 65).
Iraq: Hameed - Ibrahim, Adnan (Kasim 60), Mhawi, Ismail, Natiq (Abdul-Zahra 80), Abdul-Amir, Hisni (Waleed 64), Yasin, Abbas, Meram.

Sep1 - Saitama
Japan 1 (Honda 11)
United Arab Emirates 2 (Khalil 20, pen 54)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 58,895. **Ref:** Al Jassim (Qat)
Japan: Nishikawa - Morishige, H Sakai, G Sakai, Yoshida, Honda, Ohshima (Haraguchi 75), Kagawa, Kiyotake (Usami 62), Hasebe, Okazaki (Asano 66).
UAE: Eisa - Salem, Sanqour (Abbas 46), I Ahmed, M Ahmed, A Abdulrahman, O Abdulrahman, Esmaeel, Al Hammadi (Al Fardan 79), Mabkhout, Khalil (Fawzi 73).

Sep1 - Riyadh
Saudi Arabia 1 (Al Abed pen 84)
Thailand 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,983. **Ref:** Fu (Chn)
Saudi Arabia: Al Mosailem - Fallatah, Osama Hawsawi, Omar Hawsawi, Al Harbi, Al Khaibri, Al Faraj (Al Ruwaili 87), Al Moasher (Al Muwallad 63), Al Jassim, Al Abed (Al Shehri 85), Hazazi.
Thailand: Kawin - Tristan, Tanaboon, Koravit, Theerathon, Kroekrit (Tana 72), Sarach, Pokklaw (Chappuis 87), Mongkol (Sarawut 63), Teerasil, Chanathip. *Sent off: Sarach 90+6.*

Sep 6 - Shah Alam, Malaysia
Iraq 1 (Abdul-Raheem 18)
Saudi Arabia 2 (Al Abed pen 81, pen 88)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 3,400. **Ref:** Al Marri (Qat)
Iraq: Hameed - Mhawi, Natiq, Ibrahim, Ismail, Yasin, Abdul-Amir, Kamel (Faez 73), Meram (Adnan 81), Abdul-Zahra (Abbas 65), Abdul-Raheem.
Saudi Arabia: Al Mosailem - Fallatah, Osama Hawsawi, Omar Hawsawi, Al Harbi, Al Shehri (Al Muwallad 46), Al Faraj, Al Khaibri (Al Jebreen 69), Al Jassim, Al Abed, Hazazi (Abu Radeah 90).

Sep 6 - Bangkok
Thailand 0
Japan 2 (Haraguchi 18, Asano 75)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 44,500. **Ref:** Torki (Irn)
Thailand: Kawin - Theerathon, Narubadin (Siroch 58), Koravit, Tristan, Kroekrit (Peerapat 84), Chappuis (Prakit 77), Tanaboon, Chanathip, Pokklaw, Teerasil. *Sent off: Prakit 89.*
Japan: Nishikawa - H Sakai, Morishige, Yoshida, G Sakai, Hasebe, Yamaguchi, Kagawa, Honda (Yu Kobayashi 85), Haraguchi (Usami 90+1), Asano (Muto 82).

Sep 6 - Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates 0
Australia 1 (Cahill 75)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,893. **Ref:** Bin Yaacob (Mly)
UAE: Eisa - Salem, Abbas, I Ahmed, M Ahmed (Hussain 24), Al Hammadi, O Abdulrahman, Esmaeel, A Abdulrahman (S Saleh 77), Khalil (M Abdulrahman 62), Mabkhout.
Australia: Ryan - Sainsbury, McGowan, Smith, Spiranovic, Milligan, Mooy, Rogic (Luongo 64), Leckie, Juric (Cahill 71), Kruse (Burns 90).

WC QUALS – ASIA – 3RD ROUND: GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Australia	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Saudi Arabia	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Japan	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
UAE	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Iraq	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Thailand	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

Each team will play10 games (5x2); games to be completed by Sep 2017

● *The top 2 in both groups will qualify for the finals; the 2 3rd-placed countries will meet in the* **Asia section play-off**, *the winner of which will meet the 4th-placed CONCACAF country in a play-off for a place in the finals*

CONCACAF section

● *3.5 finals places available*

4th round

Group A

Sep 2 - San Salvador
El Salvador 1 (Larin pen 24)
Mexico 3 (Moreno 52, Sepulveda 58, R Jimenez pen 73)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Villarreal (USA)
El Salvador: Arroyo - Garcia, Mayen, Larin, Jaime Alas, Ceren (Pineda 68), Punyed, Menjivar (Flores 84), Tamacas (Mendoza 80), Dominguez, N Bonilla.
Mexico: Ochoa - Marquez (Molina 75), Ayala, Torres Nilo (Duenas 46), Moreno, Layun, Guardado, Aquino (Ramirez 66), H Herrera, Sepulveda, R Jimenez.

Sep 2 - San Pedro Sula
Honduras 2 (M Martinez 45+2, Quioto 50)
Canada 1 (James 35)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Martinez (Cub)
Honduras: Escober - M Figueroa, Izaguirre, Beckeles, Johnny Palacios, Claros, M Martinez (Hernandez 79), Acosta (Discua 46), Lozano, Quioto (O Garcia 70), Elis.
Canada: Borjan - Edgar, Jakovic, Henry, De Jong, Hutchinson, Arfield, James (Straith 64), Hoilett, Akindele (Ricketts 56), Larin (Ledgerwood 69).

Sep 6 - Vancouver
Canada 3 (Larin 11, Ledgerwood 53, Edgar 90+2)
El Salvador 1 (N Bonilla 78)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Legister (Jam)
Canada: Borjan - Straith, Henry, De Jong, Hutchinson, Ledgerwood (Piette 75), Arfield, James, Hoilett (Edgar 82), Ricketts, Larin (M Haber 75).
El Salvador: Arroyo - J Barahona (Mayen 46), Larin, Jaime Alas, Romero, O Ceren (Garcia 64), D Ceren, Punyed (A Flores 46), Tamacas, Dominguez, N Bonilla. *Sent off: D Ceren 56.*

Sep 6 - Mexico City
Mexico 0
Honduras 0
Ref: Geiger (USA)
Mexico: Talavera - Ayala, Moreno, Layun, Reyes, Guardado, Duenas (Pineda 72), Aquino (E Hernandez 85), H Herrera, Sepulveda (Lozano 46), Zaldivar.
Honduras: Escober - M Figueroa, Izaguirre, Beckeles, Johnny Palacios, Leveron, Claros, M Martinez (O Garcia 60), Quioto (Lozano 74), Mejia (Morazan 89), Elis.

WC QUALS – CONCACAF – 4TH RD: GP A – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mexico (Q)	6	5	1	0	13	1	16
Honduras (Q)	6	2	2	2	6	6	8
Canada	6	2	1	3	5	8	7
El Salvador	6	0	2	4	4	13	2

Group B

Sep 2 - Port-au-Prince
Haiti 0
Costa Rica 1 (Azofeifa 71)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Mejia (ESv)
Haiti: Ceus - Jerome, Lafrance, Ade, Arcus, Herold, Hilaire (Vorbe 73), P Pierre, Delva (Louima 75), Belfort, Damus.
Costa Rica: Pemberton - Duarte, Gamboa, Waston, Acosta, Mataritta, Azofeifa (Guzman 82), Borges, Bolanos, B Ruiz (Campbell 63), Urena (Venegas 55).

Sep 2 - Panama City
Panama 2 (G Torres 28, Arroyo 90+2)
Jamaica 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Aguilar (ESv)
Panama: Penedo - Baloy, R Torres, Machado, Miller (Ovalle 46), G Gomez, Cooper, Quintero, Barcenas (Arroyo 64), B Perez, G Torres (A Henriquez 82).
Jamaica: Blake - Morgan, J Taylor, Lawrence, Hector, Williamson (Austin 52), Dawkins (McAnuff 62), Watson, Donaldson, Barnes, McCleary (Orgill 73).

Sep 6 - SanJose
Costa Rica 3 (Bolanos 19, 80, Matarrita 85)
Panama 1 (Tejada pen 90+1)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Garcia (Mex)
Costa Rica: Alvarado - Oviedo, Duarte, Gonzalez, Calvo, Miranda (Matarrita 76), Azofeifa (Guzman 64), Borges, Bolanos, Venegas, Campbell (Y Ruiz 64).
Panama: Calderon - Ovalle, Dixon, Escobar, M Murillo, Buitrago, A Henriquez, Vargas (Gonzalez 49), Camargo (Tejada 50), Barcenas, Nurse (B Perez 76).

Sep 6 - Kingston
Jamaica 0
Haiti 2 (Lafrance 68, Nazon 88)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Skeete (Bar)
Jamaica: Blake - Mariappa, Morgan, Francis, Powell (Harriott 62), Hector, McAnuff, Austin, Watson (Holness 75), Orgill, Burke (Donaldson 74).
Haiti: Placide - Jerome, Lafrance, Ade, Arcus, Delice (P Pierre 70), Herold, Thuriere, Delva (Hilaire 59), Belfort (Desire 49), Nazon.

WC QUALS – CONCACAF – 4TH RD: GP B – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Costa Rica (Q)	6	5	1	0	11	3	16
Panama (Q)	6	3	1	2	7	5	10
Haiti	6	1	1	4	2	4	4
Jamaica	6	1	1	4	2	10	4

Group C

Sep 2 - Kingstown
St Vincent & The Grenadines 0
United States 6 (Wood 28, Besler 32, Altidore pen 43, Pulisic 71, 90+2, Kljestan 78)
HT: 0-3. **Ref:** Bourdeau (Can)
St Vincent & The Grenadines: Christopher - Richards, Benjamin, Gordon (Miller 74), Durham, E George (Patrick 68), Anderson, G James (Slater 53), Stewart, M Samuel, McBurnette.
United States: Guzan - Yedlin, Cameron, Besler, Acosta, Zusi, Beckerman, Bedoya (Kljestan 66), F Johnson (Pulisic 66), Altidore (Morris 72), Wood.

Sep 2 - Port of Spain
Trinidad & Tobago 2 (J Jones 45+1, 62)
Guatemala 2 (C Ruiz 36, 87)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Pitti (Pan)
Trinidad & Tobago: Phillip - C Mitchell, Bateau, M Williams, Cyrus, J Jones, Boucaud (K George 66), Hyland, Molino (L Garcia 68), Cato, K Jones (Caesar 87).
Guatemala: P Motta - Rafael Morales (Matta 81), Hamilton Lopez, Jimenez, Payeras, Contreras (Rosales 80), Marquez, Pappa, Saravia, C Ruiz, Tinoco (Castellanos 77). *Sent off: Jimenez 84.*

Sep 6 - Guatemala City
Guatemala 9 (Tinoco 13, C Ruiz 20, 28, 37, 58, 60, Arreola 56, Rafael Morales 79, Marquez 83)
St Vincent & The Grenadines 3 (Anderson 10, 30, McBurnette 90)
HT: 4-2. **Ref:** Ward (SKN)
Guatemala: Jerez - Lalin, Rafael Morales, Mejia (Arreola 46), Cardona, Payeras, Contreras, Marquez, Saravia, C Ruiz (Guerra 90+1), Tinoco (Castellanos 70).
St Vincent & The Grenadines: Christopher - K Francis, Benjamin, Alleyne, Gordon, Durham, G James (Patrick 88), M Samuel, Anderson (Stewart 63), McBurnette, Slater.

Sep 6 - Jacksonville
United States 4 (Kljestan 44, Altidore 60, 63, Arriola 72)
Trinidad & Tobago 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Montero (CR)
United States: Howard - Cameron, Birnbaum, Gonzalez, F Johnson, Bedoya (Arriola 66), Bradley, Kljestan (Stanko 73), Pulisic, Wood (Morris 61), Altidore.
Trinidad & Tobago: Phillip - David, C Mitchell, Abu Bakr, M Williams, J Jones, Hyland, Molino, Boucaud (K George 77), L Garcia (J Williams 57), K Jones (S Winchester 69).

WC QUALS – CONCACAF – 4TH RD: GP C – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
USA (Q)	6	4	1	1	20	3	13
Trinidad & T (Q)	6	3	2	1	13	9	11
Guatemala	6	3	1	2	18	11	10
St Vincent & G	6	0	0	6	6	34	0

● *The top 2 in each group have qualified for the 5th round*

5th round

The 6 qualifying countries form a single group (games to be played, on a round-robin basis, Nov 2016-Oct 2017)

● *The top 3 will qualify for the finals; the 4th-placed country will meet the winner of the Asia section play-off in a play-off for a place in the finals*

EUROPE section

● *13 finals places available (excluding the place for hosts* **Russia***, who qualify automatically)*

Group A

Sep 6 - Borisov
Belarus 0
France 0
Att: 12,920. **Ref:** Hategan (Rom)
Belarus: Gorbunov - Polyakov, Politevich, Sivakov, Bordachev, Maevski, Korzun, Kalachev, Gordeichuk (Volodko 85), Stasevich (Krivets 69), Signevich (Kornilenko 81).
France: Mandanda - Sidibe, Varane, Koscielny, Kurzawa, Kante, Pogba, Sissoko (Dembele 69), Griezmann, Martial (Payet 57), Giroud (Gameiro 83).

Sep 6 - Sofia
Bulgaria 4 (Rangelov 16, Marcelinho 65, I Popov 79, Tonev 90+2)
Luxembourg 3 (Joachim 60, 62, Bohnert 90+1)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,202. **Ref:** Mazeika (Lit)
Bulgaria: V Stoyanov - S Popov, I Ivanov, Chorbadzhiyski, Nedyalkov, Dyakov, Marcelinho, G Milanov (Tonev 64), I Popov (Bozhilov 85), M Aleksandrov (Chochev 56), Rangelov.
Luxembourg: Joubert - Jans, C Martins, Chanot, Malget, Mutsch, Gerson, Philipps (Deville 84), Da Mota (Bohnert 68), Joachim, V Thill (Turpel 59).

Sep 6 - Stockholm
Sweden 1 (Berg 43)
Holland 1 (Sneijder 67)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 36,128. **Ref:** Orsato (Ita)
Sweden: Olsen - Lustig, Lindelof, Granqvist, Wendt, Rohden (Kujovic 77), Fransson, Hiljemark, Forsberg, Guidetti (Nyman 64), Berg (Durmaz 88).
Holland: Zoet - Janmaat, Bruma, Van Dijk, Blind, Strootman, Promes (Berghuis 78), Wijnaldum (Dost 66), Klaassen, Sneijder, Janssen.

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	1	1	0	0	4	3	3
Holland	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Sweden	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Belarus	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
France	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Luxembourg	1	0	0	1	3	4	0

Group B

Sep 6 - Andorra La Vella
Andorra 0
Latvia 1 (Sabala 48)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,115. **Ref:** Pisani (Mlt)
Andorra: Pol - Jordi Rubio, Llovera, Lima, M Garcia, Vales, Clemente (Pujol 78), Alaez (Moreira 83), M Vieira, C Martinez, Riera (Rebes 30).
Latvia: Vanins - Gabovs, Jagodinskis, Gorkss, Maksimenko, Lazdins (O Laizans 45+1), D Ikaunieks (Torress 63), J Ikaunieks, Zjuzins (Karasauskis 74), A Visnakovs, Sabala.

Sep 6 - Torshavn
Faroe Islands 0
Hungary 0
Att: 4,066. **Ref:** Vincic (Sln)
Faroe Islands: Nielsen - B Hansen, Gregersen, Nattestad, V Davidsen, Vatnhamar, Benjaminsen, R Joensen, Hendriksson, Hansson (Vatnsdal 90+1), Edmundsson.
Hungary: Gulacsi - Fiola, Guzmics, Lang, Kadar, Nagy, Nemeth (Nikolic 70), Kleinheisler (Stieber 80), Elek, Dzsudzsak, Priskin (Szalai 27).

Sep 6 - Basle
Switzerland 2 (Embolo 24, Mehmedi 30)
Portugal 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 36,000. **Ref:** Mateu Lahoz (Spa)
Switzerland: Sommer - Lichtsteiner (Widmer 70), Schar, Djourou, Rodriguez, Behrami, Xhaka, Embolo, Dzemaili (Fernandes 89), Mehmedi, Seferovic (Derdiyok 78). *Sent off: Xhaka 90+3.*
Portugal: Rui Patricio - Cedric, Pepe, Jose Fonte, Raphael Guerreiro, Joao Moutinho (Quaresma 68), William Carvalho (Joao Mario 46), Adrien Silva, Nani, Eder (Andre Silva 46), Bernardo Silva.

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Latvia	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Faroe Islands	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hungary	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Andorra	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Portugal	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group C

Sep 4 - Prague
Czech Republic 0
Northern Ireland 0
Att: 10,731. **Ref:** Sidiropoulos (Gre)
Czech Republic: Vaclik - Kaderabek, Suchy, M Kadlec, Novak, Skalak (Kopic 77), Pavelka, Darida, Krejci, Skoda (Necid 68), V Kadlec (Vydra 83).
Northern Ireland: McGovern - C McLaughlin, McAuley, J Evans, Ferguson (Hodson 66), Norwood, Ward (McGinn 74), McNair, Davis, Dallas, K Lafferty (Magennis 59).

Sep 4 - Oslo
Norway 0
Germany 3 (Muller 15, 60, Kimmich 45)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 26,793. **Ref:** Collum (Sco)
Norway: Jarstein - Svensson, Hovland, Nordtveit, Aleesami, Diomande, Johansen (Jenssen 67), Tettey, Veton Berisha, King (Sorloth 72), Henriksen (Selnaes 61).
Germany: Neuer - Kimmich, Howedes, Hummels, Muller, Khedira (Weigl 84), Kroos, Hector, Ozil, Gotze (Brandt 72), Draxler (Meyer 84).

Sep 4 - Serravalle
San Marino 0
Azerbaijan 1 (R Kurbanov 45)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 886. **Ref:** Delferiere (Blg)
San Marino: A Simoncini - Brolli, Cesarini, D Simoncini, Palazzi, M Berardi, F Berardi (Rinaldi 73), Tosi, Chiaruzzi (L Gasperoni 54), Hirsch, M Vitaioli (C Valentini 86). *Sent off: Brolli 52.*
Azerbaijan: K Agayev - Mirzabekov, Medvedev, R F Sadygov, Dashdemirov, Garayev, Ismayilov, Amirguliyev, Nazarov (Makhmudov 78), R Kurbanov (Alaskerov 69), Ramazanov (Sheydaev 89).

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Azerbaijan	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Czech Rep	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
N Ireland	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
San Marino	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Norway	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Group D

Sep 5 - Tbilisi
Georgia 1 (Ananidze 78)
Austria 2 (Hinteregger 16, Janko 42)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 28,500. **Ref:** Kulbakov (Bls)
Georgia: Loria - Lobzhanidze (Chanturia 84), Kverkvelia, Amisulashvili (Okriashvili 76), Navalovski, Kashia, Daushvili, Jigauri, Ananidze, Kazaishvili, Dvalishvili (Skhirtladze 63).
Austria: Almer - Klein, Dragovic, Hinteregger, Suttner, Harnik (Sabitzer 72), Baumgartlinger, Junuzovic (Schopf 67), Alaba, Arnautovic, Janko (Gregoritsch 76).

Sep 5 - Belgrade
Serbia 2 (Kostic 62, Tadic pen 69)
Republic of Ireland 2 (Hendrick 3, Murphy 81)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 7,896. **Ref:** Kassai (Hun)
Serbia: P Rajkovic - Ivanovic, Nastasic, Vukovic, Rukavina, Milivojevic, Gudelj, Mladenovic (D Tosic 77), Tadic, A Mitrovic (Pavlovic 59), Kostic (Katai 82).
Republic of Ireland: Randolph - Coleman, O'Shea, Keogh, Ward (Quinn 70), Hendrick (Murphy 76), Whelan, Brady, Walters, Long (Clark 90+1), McClean.

Sep 5 - Cardiff
Wales 4 (Vokes 38, Allen 44, Bale 51, pen 90+5)
Moldova 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 31,731. **Ref:** Liani (Isr)
Wales: Hennessey - Gunter, Chester, A Williams (Collins 82), Davies, Taylor, Ledley (Huws 67), Allen, King, Vokes (Robson-Kanu 75), Bale.
Moldova: Cebanu - Cojocari, Cascaval, Epureanu, Armas, I Jardan, Gatcan, Cebotaru (Sidorenco 75), Ionita, Ginsari (Bugaiov 75), Dedov (Mihaliov 85).

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
Austria	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Rep Ireland	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Serbia	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Georgia	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Moldova	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

Group E

Sep 4 - Copenhagen
Denmark 1 (Eriksen 17)
Armenia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 21,745. **Ref:** Lechner (Aut)
Denmark: Ronnow - P Ankersen, Kjaer, A Christensen, Vestergaard, Durmisi, Kvist, Hojbjerg (Delaney 81), Eriksen, Fischer, N Jorgensen (Y Poulsen 66).
Armenia: Beglaryan - Hambardzumyan, Haroyan, Mkoyan, Andonian, Hovhannisyan, Artak Yedigaryan, Malakyan (Manoyan 77), Ozbiliz (Ghazaryan 41), Arshakyan (Pizzelli 70), Kadimyan.

Sep 4 - Astana
Kazakhstan 2 (Khizhnichenko 51, 58)
Poland 2 (Kapustka 9, Lewandowski pen 35)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 19,905. **Ref:** Gozubuyuk (Hol)
Kazakhstan: Pokatilov - Beisebekov, Y Akhmetov (Abdulin 61), Maliy, Kislitsyn, Shomko, Kuat, Baizhanov (Nurgaliyev 69), Islamkhan (Tagybergen 80), Muzhikov, Khizhnichenko.
Poland: Fabianski - Piszczek, Glik, Salamon, Rybus, Blaszczykowski, Krychowiak, Zielinski, Kapustka (Linetty 83), Milik, Lewandowski.

Sep 4 - Cluj-Napoca
Romania 1 (Popa 85)
Montenegro 1 (Jovetic 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,468. **Ref:** Taylor (Eng)
Romania: Pantilimon - Benzar, Moti, D Grigore, Filip, Hoban, Sapunaru, Bicfalvi (Popa 76), Stancu (Keseru 90), Stanciu, Andone (Torje 70).
Montenegro: M Bozovic - Tomasevic, Savic, Simic, N Vukcevic, Marusic, Vesovic (Kojasevic 80), Scekic, Bakic (Mugosa 68), Jovetic, Beciraj (Nikolic 90+2).

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP E	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Poland	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Kazakhstan	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Montenegro	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Romania	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Armenia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

Group F

Sep 4 - Vilnius
Lithuania 2 (Cernych 32, Slivka 34)
Slovenia 2 (Krhin 77, Cesar 90+3)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,114. **Ref:** Dias (Por)
Lithuania: Setkus - Vaitkunas, Freidgeimas, Girdvainis, Slavickas, Cernych (Grigaravicius 70), Zulpa, Kuklys, Novikovas, Valskis (Matulevicius 85), Slivka (Chvedukas 79).
Slovenia: Oblak - Skubic, Samardzic, Cesar, Jokic, Verbic (Novakovic 56), Krhin, Kampl, Birsa, Beric (Ilicic 46), Bezjak.

Sep 4 - Valletta
Malta 1 (Effiong 14)
Scotland 5 (Snodgrass 10, pen 61, 85, C Martin 53, S Fletcher 78)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 15,069. **Ref:** Aranovskyi (Ukr)
Malta: Hogg - Zerafa, J Caruana, Agius, S Borg, Scicluna (Camilleri 79), P Fenech, Sciberras, Schembri (R Briffa 66), Gambin, Effiong (M Mifsud 89). *Sent off: J Caruana 59, Gambin 90+1.*
Scotland: Marshall - Paterson, R Martin, Hanley, Robertson, Snodgrass, Bannan, D Fletcher, Ritchie (Anya 86), Burke (Forrest 66), C Martin (S Fletcher 69).

Sep 4 - Trnava
Slovakia 0
England 1 (Lallana 90+5)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,111. **Ref:** Mazic (Ser)
Slovakia: Kozacik - Pekarik, Skrtel, Durica, Hubocan, Pecovsky (Gyomber 56), Mak (Kubik 72), Gregus, Hamsik, Svento (Kiss 78), Duris. *Sent off: Skrtel 57.*
England: Hart - Walker, Cahill, Stones, Rose, Henderson (Alli 64), Dier, Sterling (Walcott 71), Rooney, Lallana, Kane (Sturridge 82).

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP F	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
England	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Slovenia	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Lithuania	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Slovakia	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

Group G

Sep 5 - Haifa
Israel 1 (Tal Ben Haim/F 35)
Italy 3 (Pelle 14, Candreva pen 31, Immobile 83)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 29,300. **Ref:** Karasev (Rus)
Israel: Goresh - B Bitton, Tibi (Gershon 50), Tzedek, Davidzada, Kayal, N Bitton (Atzili 57), Yeini, Tal Ben Haim/F (Kahat 62), Hemed, Zahavi.
Italy: Buffon - Barzagli, Bonucci, Chiellini, Candreva (Florenzi 67), Antonelli, Parolo, Verratti, Bonaventura (Ogbonna 63), Eder (Immobile 70), Pelle. *Sent off: Chiellini 55.*

Sep 5 - Leon
Spain 8 (Diego Costa 10, 66, Sergi Roberto 55, Silva 59, 90+1, Vitolo 60, Morata 82, 83)
Liechtenstein 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,139. **Ref:** Evans (Wal)
Spain: De Gea - Sergi Roberto, Pique, Sergio Ramos, Jordi Alba, Busquets, Koke, Vitolo (Marco Asensio 79), Thiago (Nolito 46), Silva, Diego Costa (Morata 68).
Liechtenstein: Jehle - Rechsteiner (Yildiz 71), Polverino, Kaufmann, Goppel, Salanovic (Wolfinger 77), Martin Buchel (Gubser 83), Wieser, Marcel Buchel, Burgmeier, N Hasler.

Sep 6[1] - Shkoder
Albania 2 (Sadiku 9, Balaj 89)
Macedonia 1 (Alioski 51)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 14,667. **Ref:** Gocek (Tur)
Albania: Berisha - Hysaj, Gjimshiti, Mavraj, Agolli, Abrashi (Balaj 60), Kukeli, Xhaka, Gashi (Memushaj 60), Sadiku, Hyka (Roshi 67).
Macedonia: Zahov - Ristovski, Mojsov (B Ibraimi 89), Sikov, Ristevski, Spirovski, Zhuta, Stjepanovic (Petrovikj 61), Hasani (Gjorgjev 74), Alioski, Pandev.
[1]The first 76 minutes were played the previous day, when the game had to be abandoned because the pitch was waterlogged

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP G	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	1	1	0	0	8	0	3
Italy	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Albania	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Macedonia	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Israel	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Liechtenstein	1	0	0	1	0	8	0

Group H

Sep 6 - Zenica
Bosnia-Herzegovina 5 (Spahic 7, 90+2, Dzeko pen 23, Medunjanin 71, Ibisevic 83)
Estonia 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 13,632. **Ref:** Zelinka (CzR)
Bosnia-Herzegovina: Begovic - O Vranjes (Bicakcic 62), Zukanovic, Spahic, Kolasinac, Visca (Milicevic 75), Pjanic, Medunjanin, Lulic, Ibisevic, Dzeko (Djuric 81).
Estonia: Aksalu - Teniste, Baranov, Klavan, Pikk, Kams (Kruglov 46), Mets, Antonov (Sappinen 86), Kallaste, Vassiljev, Zenjov (Henri Anier 71).

Sep 6 - Nicosia
Cyprus 0
Belgium 3 (R Lukaku 13, 61, Carrasco 81)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,029. **Ref:** Zwayer (Ger)
Cyprus: Panayi - Demetriou, Dossa Junior, Laifis, Alexandrou, Kastanos (Makris 78), Kyriakou, Charalambides, Laban (Artymatas 69), Efrem, Sotiriou (Mytidis 69).
Belgium: Courtois - Meunier, Alderweireld, Vermaelen, Vertonghen, Fellaini (Nainggolan 84), Witsel, De Bruyne, Carrasco, R Lukaku (Batshuayi 74), E Hazard.

Sep 6 - Faro-Loule, Portugal
Gibraltar 1 (Walker 26)
Greece 4 (Mitroglou 10, Wiseman og 44, Fortounis 45, Torosidis 45+2)
HT: 1-4. **Att:** 460. **Ref:** Kehlet (Den)
Gibraltar: J Perez - Garcia, Wiseman, R Chipolina, R Casciaro, J Chipolina, Bosio (K Casciaro 71), Hernandez, Coombes (Yome 85), Walker, L Casciaro.
Greece: Karnezis - Tzavellas, Papastathopoulos, Manolas, Torosidis, Samaris, Maniatis (Tziolis 71), Mantalos (Gianniotas 62), Fortounis, Bakasetas, Mitroglou (Vellios 73).

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP H

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bosnia-Herz	1	1	0	0	5	0	3
Greece	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Belgium	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Gibraltar	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Estonia	1	0	0	1	0	5	0

Group I

Sep 5 - Zagreb
Croatia 1 (Rakitic pen 44)
Turkey 1 (Calhanoglu 45+3)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Marciniak (Pol)
Played behind closed doors
Croatia: L Kalinic - Vrsaljko, Corluka, Vida, Strinic, Badelj, Modric, Pjaca (N Kalinic 80), Rakitic (Brozovic 64), Perisic, Mandzukic (Kramaric 85).
Turkey: Volkan Babacan - Sener, Serdar, Mehmet Topal, Ismail, Ozan, Okay, Ayhan (Ahmet Calik 53), Mor (Volkan Sen 85), Tosun (Sahan 71), Calhanoglu.

Sep 5 - Turku
Finland 1 (Arajuuri 18)
Kosovo 1 (V Berisha pen 60)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,571. **Ref:** Kruzliak (Slk)
Finland: Hradecky - Lam (Ring 65), Arajuuri, N Moisander, Raitala, Halsti, Uronen, Lod (Schuller 88), R Eremenko, Pukki (Hamalainen 73), Pohjanpalo.
Kosovo: Ujkani - Perdedaj, Rrahmani, Pnishi, Paqarada, Kryeziu, Rashica, V Berisha (Meha 90+3), Alushi, B Berisha (Halimi 81), Albert Bunjaku (Celina 66).

Sep 5 - Kiev
Ukraine 1 (Yarmolenko 41)
Iceland 1 (Finnbogason 6)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Turpin (Fra)
Played behind closed doors
Ukraine: Pyatov - Butko, Rakitskyi, Kucher, Sobol, Yarmolenko, Sydorchuk (Zozulya 63), Stepanenko, Konoplyanka, Kovalenko, Zinchenko (Shakhov 90).
Iceland: Halldorsson - B Saevarsson, Arnason, R Sigurdsson, A Skulason (Magnusson 42), J Gudmundsson (Hallfredsson 84), A Gunnarsson, G Sigurdsson, B Bjarnason (Traustason 75), Finnbogason, Bodvarsson.

WC QUALS – EUROPE – GROUP I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Iceland	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Kosovo	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Turkey	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Croatia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Finland	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Ukraine	1	0	1	0	1	1	1

Each team will play10 games (5x2); games to be completed by Oct 2017

● *The 9 group winners will qualify for the finals; the 8 runners-up with the best record (against the countries finishing1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th in the respective groups) will be paired in 4 play-offs, the winners of which will also qualify for the finals*

SOUTH AMERICA section

● *4.5 finals places available*

Sep1 - Mendoza
Argentina 1 (Messi 43)
Uruguay 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Bascunan (Chl)
Argentina: Romero - Zabaleta, Otamendi, Funes Mori, Mas, Mascherano, Biglia, Messi, Dybala, Di Maria (Gaitan 84), Pratto (Alario 71). *Sent off: Dybala 45+1.*
Uruguay: Muslera - Fucile (Rolan 87), Gimenez, Godin, G Silva, Arevalo, Sanchez (Ramirez 70), Corujo, Lodeiro (C Rodriguez 60), Cavani, Suarez.

Sep1 - La Paz
Bolivia 2 (Escobar 38, Raldes 87)
Peru 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Argote (Ven)
Bolivia: Quinonez - Rodriguez, Raldes, Zenteno, M Bejarano, Azogue, W Flores, Campos (Wayar 20), Escobar (Saavedra 62), Arce (Cabrera 82), Moreno.
Peru: Gallese - Corzo, Ramos, Abram, Trauco, Ortiz (Sanchez 55), Aquino, Polo (Guerrero 46), Cueva, Avila (Flores 71), Ruidiaz.

Sep1 - Barranquilla
Colombia 2 (Rodriguez 45+2, M Torres 82)
Venezuela 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Fedorczuk (Uru)
Colombia: Ospina - Medina (Cardona 90), J Murillo, O Murillo, Diaz, D Torres, C Sanchez, Rodriguez, M Torres, Muriel (Cuadrado 70), Bacca (Martinez 83).
Venezuela: D Hernandez - Rosales, Angel, Vizcarrondo (Velazquez 83), R Feltscher, Anor (Santos 67), Figuera, Rincon, Penaranda (Soteldo 50), S Rondon, Martinez. *Sent off: Angel 79, R Feltscher 90+3.*

Sep1 - Quito
Ecuador 0
Brazil 3 (Neymar pen 72, Gabriel Jesus 87, 90+2)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Caceres (Par)
Ecuador: Dominguez - Paredes, Achilier, A Mina, W Ayovi, E Valencia, Noboa, Gruezo (Gaibor 82), Montero (Arroyo 73), M Bolanos, F Caicedo (Ibarra 67). *Sent off: Paredes 76.*
Brazil: Alisson - Daniel Alves, Marquinhos, Miranda, Marcelo, Casemiro, Paulinho, Renato Augusto, Willian (Philippe Coutinho 61), Neymar, Gabriel Jesus.

Sep1 - Asuncion
Paraguay 2 (O Romero 6, Da Silva 9)
Chile 1 (Vidal 37)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Pitana (Arg)
Paraguay: D Barreto - Moreira, Gomez, Da Silva, Candia, Ayala, C Riveros, Rojas (B Valdez 86), O Romero, Lezcano (Jorge Benitez 82), Santander (Almiron 67).
Chile: Toselli - Isla, G Medel, Roco, Mena (Pinilla 78), Silva (Gutierrez 73), Fuenzalida (Puch 56), Aranguiz, Vidal, Sanchez, Vargas. *Sent off: G Medel 90+3.*

Sep 6 - Manaus
Brazil 2 (Miranda 2, Neymar 74)
Colombia 1 (Marquinhos og 36)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Loustau (Arg)
Brazil: Alisson - Daniel Alves, Miranda, Marquinhos, Marcelo, Casemiro, Renato Augusto, Paulinho (Giuliano 71), Willian (Philippe Coutinho 66), Neymar, Gabriel Jesus (Taison 86).
Colombia: Ospina - Medina, J Murillo, O Murillo, Diaz, C Sanchez, Barrios, M Torres (Cuadrado 52), Rodriguez, Muriel (Marlos Moreno 82), Bacca (Martinez 72).

Sep 6 - Santiago
Chile 0
Bolivia 0
Ref: Marques (Bra)
Chile: Toselli - Isla, Silva, Roco, Mena, Aranguiz, Millar (Fernandez 54; Gutierrez 64), Vidal, Fuenzalida (Pinilla 71), Vargas, Sanchez.
Bolivia: Lampe - Rodriguez, Raldes, Zenteno, M Bejarano, W Flores, Azogue, Arce (Cabrera 77), Smedberg-Dalence (Saavedra 82), Duk (J Flores 68), Moreno.

Sep 6 - Lima
Peru 2 (Cueva pen 19, Tapia 78)
Ecuador 1 (Achilier 31)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Roldan (Col)
Peru: Gallese - Corzo (Revoredo 46), Ramos, Abram (Araujo 17), Trauco, Benavente (Ruidiaz 73), Cueva, Tapia, Yotun, Flores, Guerrero.
Ecuador: Dominguez - A Valencia, A Mina, Achilier, W Ayovi, Quinonez (Gruezo 49), Noboa, E Valencia, Montero (Arroyo 86), M Bolanos (Ibarra 62), F Caicedo. *Sent off: Arroyo 90+3.*

Sep 6 - Montevideo
Uruguay 4 (Cavani 18, 54, C Rodriguez 42, Suarez pen 45+1)
Paraguay 0
HT: 3-0. **Ref:** Sampaio (Bra)
Uruguay: Muslera - Corujo, Gimenez, Godin, G Silva, Sanchez, Arevalo, C Rodriguez, Ramirez (A Pereira 87), Suarez (Hernandez 76), Cavani (Stuani 72).
Paraguay: D Barreto - Moreira, Aguilar, Da Silva, Candia, Ayala (Almiron 56), N Ortigoza (M Riveros 65), C Riveros, O Romero, A Romero, Lezcano (Santander 46).

Sep 6 - Merida
Venezuela 2 (Anor 35, Martinez 53)
Argentina 2 (Pratto 58, Otamendi 83)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Zambrano (Ecu)
Venezuela: D Hernandez - A Gonzalez (Garcia 71), Velazquez, Vizcarrondo, Villanueva, Anor, Rincon, Arles Flores, Penaranda, S Rondon, Martinez (Kouffaty 78; Del Valle 81).
Argentina: Romero - Zabaleta, Otamendi, Funes Mori, Rojo (Gaitan 83), Mascherano, Biglia (Alario 72), Lamela (Correa 67), Banega, Di Maria, Pratto.

WC QUALS – SOUTH AMERICA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Uruguay	8	5	1	2	16	5	16
Brazil	8	4	3	1	16	9	15
Argentina	8	4	3	1	9	6	15
Colombia	8	4	1	3	12	10	13
Ecuador	8	4	1	3	13	12	13
Paraguay	8	3	3	2	9	11	12
Chile	8	3	2	3	13	12	11
Bolivia	8	2	1	5	9	13	7
Peru	8	2	1	5	8	15	7
Venezuela	8	0	2	6	9	21	2

Each team will play18 games (9x2); games to be completed by Oct 2017

● *The top 4 will qualify for the finals; the 5th-placed country will meet the Oceania play-off round winner in a play-off for a place in the finals*

2017 AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS

Group A

Sep 4 - Lome
Togo 5 (Bossou 25, Dossevi 44, Laba 52, Agbegniadan 87, 90)
Djibouti 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Daouda (Nig)

Sep 4 - Monastir
Tunisia 4 (Khazri 5, Khenissi 35, Khalifa 72, Lahmar pen 77)
Liberia 1 (Paye 71)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Bennett (SAf)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP A – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tunisia (Q)	6	4	1	1	16	3	13
Togo (Q)	6	3	2	1	11	4	11
Liberia	6	3	1	2	11	8	10
Djibouti	6	0	0	6	1	24	0

Group B

Sep 3 - Luanda
Angola 1 (Gelson 54)
Madagascar 1 (Razakanantenaina 17)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Sikazwe (Zam)

Sep 4 - Kinshasa
DR Congo 4 (Kebano 28, Mubele 46, Bolingi 73, Botaka 90)
Central African Republic 1 (Kethevoama 62)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Gassama (Gam)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP B – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DR Congo (Q)	6	5	0	1	16	6	15
Cent Af Rep	6	3	1	2	9	11	10
Angola	6	1	2	3	7	8	5
Madagascar	6	0	3	3	5	12	3

Group C

Sep 4 - Malabo
Equatorial Guinea 4 (Josete 54, Randy 59, Nsue 67, Akapo 90)
South Sudan 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Martins de Carvalho (Ang)

Sep 4 - Bamako
Mali 5 (S Yatabare 19, Diaby 36, Marega 39, Adama Traore 65, M Doumbia 80)
Benin 2 (Gounongbe 40, Sessegnon 90+1)
HT: 3-1. **Ref:** Grisha (Egy)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP C – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mali (Q)	6	5	1	0	13	3	16
Benin	6	3	2	1	12	10	11
Equat Guinea	6	1	1	4	6	6	4
South Sudan	6	1	0	5	3	15	3

Group D

Sep 4 - Ouagadougou
Burkina Faso 2 (Nakoulma 17, Diawara 90+6)
Botswana 1 (Sesinyi pen 79)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Essrayri (Tun)
Sent off: Lesego 59, Kabelo 75 (both Botswana); Yago (Burkina Faso) 85

Sep 4 - Kampala
Uganda 1 (Miya 35)
Comoros 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Diedhiou (Sen)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP D – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burkina F (Q)	6	4	1	1	6	2	13
Uganda (Q)	6	4	1	1	6	2	13
Botswana	6	2	0	4	5	8	6
Comoros	6	1	0	5	2	7	3

Group E

Sep 4 - Brazzaville
Congo 1 (Dore 81)
Guinea-Bissau 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Camille (Sey)

Sep 4 - Ndola
Zambia 1 (Kalaba 84)
Kenya 1 (Timbe 63)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Keita (Mli)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP E – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
G-Bissau (Q)	6	3	1	2	7	7	10
Congo	6	2	3	1	9	7	9
Zambia	6	1	4	1	7	7	7
Kenya	6	1	2	3	5	7	5

Group F

Sep 3 - Praia
Cape Verde Islands 0
Libya 1 (Al Triki 88)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Tessema Weyesa (Eth)

Sep 4 - Rabat
Morocco 2 (Ziyech pen 54, Bouhaddouz 82)
Sao Tome e Principe 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Gomes (GuB)
Morocco: Bounou - Da Costa, Abdelhamid, Obbadi (Fajr 38), Ait Bennasser, Mendyl, Ziyech (Chahechouhe 76), Dirar, Tannane (Batna 58), En-Nesyri, Bouhaddouz.

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP F – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morocco (Q)	6	5	1	0	10	1	16
Cape Verde	6	3	0	3	11	7	9
Libya	6	2	1	3	8	6	7
Sao Tome e P	6	1	0	5	4	19	3

Group G

Sep 3 - Uyo
Nigeria 1 (Iheanacho 78)
Tanzania 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Abid Charef (Alg)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP G – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt (Q)	4	3	1	0	7	1	10
Nigeria	4	1	2	1	2	2	5
Tanzania	4	0	1	3	0	6	1

Chad withdrew after 3 matches; results expunged

Group H

Sep 3 - Accra
Ghana 1 (Tetteh 24)
Rwanda 1 (Hakizimana 82)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Effa (Cam)
Ghana: Brimah - Afful, Rahman, J Mensah, Gyimah, Duncan, Agyemang-Badu, Amartey (J Ayew), Acheampong, Accam (Partey), Tetteh.

Sep 3 - Maputo
Mozambique 1 (Januario 90+5)
Mauritius 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Mohamed (Sud)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP H – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana (Q)	6	4	2	0	14	3	14
Mozambique	6	2	1	3	5	7	7
Rwanda	6	2	1	3	9	6	7
Mauritius	6	2	0	4	3	15	6

Group I

Sep 3 - Bouake
Ivory Coast 1 (Kodjia 33)
Sierra Leone 1 (K Kamara 67)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Nampiandraza (Mad)
Ivory Coast: Gbohouo - Goua, Bailly, Kanon, Kessie, Seri (Diomande 76), N'Guessan, Kalou (Gradel 69), Adama, Gervinho, Kodjia.

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP I – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ivory Coast (Q)	4	1	3	0	3	2	6
Sierra Leone	4	1	2	1	2	2	5
Sudan	4	1	1	2	2	3	4

Group J

Sep 3 - Awassa
Ethiopia 2 (Getaneh Kebede 33, Saladin Said pen 53)
Seychelles 1 (Henriette 20)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Miiro (Uga)

Sep 4 - Blida
Algeria 6 (Soudani 7, 38, Mahrez 17, 74, Taider 23, Boudebouz pen 45+2)
Lesotho 0
HT: 5-0. **Ref:** Toure (Gui)
Algeria: M'Bolhi - Zeffane, Belkaroui (Cadamuro 64), Medjani, Ghoulam, Bentaleb, Taider, Mahrez, Boudebouz (Brahimi 46), Soudani (Bennacer 84), Slimani.

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP J – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Algeria (Q)	6	5	1	0	25	5	16
Ethiopia	6	3	2	1	11	14	11
Seychelles	6	1	1	4	5	11	4
Lesotho	6	1	0	5	5	16	3

Group K

Sep 3 - Dakar
Senegal 2 (Keita 32, Diedhiou pen 90)
Namibia 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Sinko (IvC)

Sep 4 - Niamey
Niger 3 (Adebayor, Maazou, Dan Kowa)
Burundi 1 (Faty)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Udoh (Nga)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP K – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Senegal (Q)	6	6	0	0	13	2	18
Burundi	6	2	0	4	8	12	6
Namibia	6	2	0	4	5	9	6
Niger	6	2	0	4	5	8	6

Group L

Sep 4 - Conakry
Guinea 1 (Landel 13)
Zimbabwe 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Ragab Omar (Lby)
Sent off: Alkaly Bangoura (Guinea) 89

Sep 4 - Blantyre
Malawi 1 (G Phiri 8)
Swaziland 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Ngambo (DRC)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP L – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zimbabwe (Q)	6	3	2	1	11	4	11
Swaziland	6	2	2	2	6	9	8
Guinea	6	2	2	2	5	5	8
Malawi	6	1	2	3	5	9	5

Group M

Sep 2 - Nelspruit
South Africa 1 (Kekana 26)
Mauritania 1 (Guidileye 17)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Otogo-Castane (Gab)
Sent off: Diakhite (Mauritania) 75

Sep 3 - Limbe
Cameroon 2 (Moukandjo pen 35, Ekambi 53)
Gambia 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Lamptey (Gha)

AFRICAN NATIONS CUP QUALS – GP M – FINAL	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cameroon (Q)	6	4	2	0	7	2	14
Mauritania	6	2	2	2	6	5	8
South Africa	6	1	4	1	8	6	7
Gambia	6	0	2	4	1	9	2

● *The13 group winners and the 2 runners-up with the best record (excluding those from 3-team groups) have qualified for the16-team finals. Hosts* **Gabon** *qualify automatically*

● *The finals draw is scheduled to be held on Oct 19 in Libreville, the Gabonese capital; the finals will take place from Jan14 to Feb 5 next year*

2019 ASIAN CUP QUALIFIERS

2nd play-off round

1st legs

Sep 6 - Dhaka
Bangladesh 0
Bhutan 0

Sep 6 - Male
Maldives 4 (Fasir 16, Ashfaq 63, 90+1, H Niyaz 89)
Laos 0
HT: 1-0

Still to play: East Timor v Taiwan (Oct 8)

***2nd legs:** Oct10/11*

● *Winners will enter the final qualifying stage*

FRIENDLIES

Tuesday, August 30

Aug 30 - Borg El Arab
Egypt 1 (Trezeguet 39)
Guinea 1 (Alhassane Bangoura 67)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Grisha (Egy)
Egypt: El Hadary - A Fathy (Elmohamady 46), Gamal, Gabr, Ashraf, Trezeguet, I Salah (S Morsy 46), El Nenny, El Said (Soliman 61), M Fathy (Sobhy 61), B Morsy (Paolo 67).
Guinea: N Yattara - Sankhon (I Traore 57), Alseny Bangoura (I Conte 82), Conde, F Camara, S Diallo (Alhassane Bangoura 57), Ibrahima Bangoura, Soumah, K Bangoura (Landel 70), Lamah (Kamano 46), Camara Agogo (M Yattara 46).

Aug 30 - Bishkek
Kyrgyzstan 2 (Kichin 43, Murzaev 81)
Kazakhstan 0
HT: 1-0
Kyrgyzstan: Kashuba - Kichin, Tagoe, Maier, Baymatov, Shamshiev, Murzaev, Israilov, Duyshobekov, Lux, Bernhardt.
Kazakhstan: Loria (Pokatilov 46) - Y Akhmetov, Beisebekov, Khizhnichenko (Moldakarayev 46), Baizhanov (Murtazayev 75), Maliy, Suyumbayev (Shomko 65), Islamkhan (Nurgaliyev 46), Kuat, Smakov (Tagybergen 60), Dmitrenko.

Aug 30 - Bayamon
Puerto Rico 0
Dominican Republic 1 (Caban og 12)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Santos (PR)
Puerto Rico: Matthew Sanchez - Conde (E Velez 63), J Velez (Pinto 81), D'Andrea, Caban, Hall, Coca (R Rivera 85), Martinez (Burgos 80), Cabrero, Marrero (Dawson 87), M Ramos (Ferrer 74).
Dominican Republic: Lloyd - Pena (Ceballos 77), H Martinez (Y Reyes 90), Bonnin, C J Martinez (Moquete 90), Flores, Lopez (Arostegui 73), Beard (Jimenez 67), Fana, E Rodriguez, Peralta (Sanchez 89).

Aug 30 - Kampala
Uganda 0
Kenya 0

Wednesday, August 31

Aug 31 - Shkoder
Albania 0
Morocco 0
Ref: Jug (Sln)
Albania: Berisha - Hysaj, Gjimshiti, Mavraj, Lenjani (Agolli 59), Xhaka (Kukeli 60), M Basha (Kace 72), Abrashi (Memushaj 60), Hyka (Veseli 59), Gashi (Sadiku 60), Cikalleshi.
Morocco: El Kharroubi - Da Costa, Benatia, Dirar, El Ahmadi, Amrabat (Lazaar 82), Fajr (Ait Bennasser 72), Tannane (Chahechouhe 61), En-Nesyri, Bouhaddouz (Mmaee 78), Aguerd (Batna 90+2).

Aug 31 - Mlada Boleslav
Czech Republic 3 (Krejci 4, V Kadlec 34, Kopic 86)
Armenia 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 4,351. **Ref:** Vnuk (Slk)
Czech Republic: Vaclik (Koubek 46) - Kaderabek (Zahustel 46), Pokorny (Kalas 46), Pudil (Sural 46), Suchy (M Kadlec 46), Darida (Novak 46), Krejci (Necid 46), Pavelka (Kopic 46), Skalak (Sykora 46), V Kadlec (Frydek 46), Skoda (Vydra 46).
Armenia: Beglaryan - Hambardzumyan, Andonian (Manoyan 46), Haroyan, Mkoyan, Ghazaryan (Ozbiliz 46), Kadimyan (Sarkisov 46), Malakyan (Hakobyan 76), Mkhitaryan (Artak Yedigaryan 38), Mkrtchyan (Voskanyan 71), Pizzelli (Koryan 61).

Aug 31 - Horsens
Denmark 5 (N Jorgensen 31, 33, Cornelius 49, Fischer 62, Larsen 84)
Liechtenstein 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 8,004. **Ref:** Hjaltalin (Ice)
Denmark: Ronnow - Kjaer (Cornelius 46), A Christensen, Vestergaard, Durmisi (Larsen 65), Hojbjerg (Delaney 46), Eriksen, Kvist (M Jorgensen 65), P Ankersen, Fischer (Wass 65), N Jorgensen (Y Poulsen 76).
Liechtenstein: Jehle (B Buchel 46) - Rechsteiner, Polverino (Goppel 46), Kaufmann, Burgmeier, Wieser (Gubser 80), A Christen (Wolfinger 54), N Hasler, Martin Buchel, Salanovic (Kuhne 46), Marcel Buchel (Brandle 56).

Aug 31 - Parnu
Estonia 1 (Zenjov 57)
Malta 1 (Effiong 59)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,515. **Ref:** Tykgaard (Den)
Estonia: Aksalu - Teniste, Baranov, Kallaste, Pikk (Kruglov 77), Mets, Dmitrijev (Antonov 69), Kams (Gussev 62), Vassiljev, Zenjov, Purje (Sappinen 68).
Malta: Hogg - J Caruana, Zerafa, Sciberras, Agius, Failla (Camilleri 46), P Fenech (R Briffa 84), Gambin, Schembri (Kristensen 85), S Borg (Z Muscat 62), Effiong (M Mifsud 74).

Aug 31 - Monchengladbach
Germany 2 (Meyer 55, Ozil 77)
Finland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,121. **Ref:** Kulbakov (Bls)
Germany: Ter Stegen (Leno 46) - Kimmich, Mustafi, Sule (Tah 59), Bellarabi, Schweinsteiger (Weigl 68), Meyer, Hector (Ozil 63), Volland, Gotze, Brandt (Muller 78).
Finland: Hradecky - Lam, Arajuuri (J Ojala 82), N Moisander, Raitala, Ring, Halsti (Mattila 72), Lod (Schuller 60), Uronen (Saksela 60), Hamalainen (Pukki 46), Pohjanpalo (Markkanen 72).

Aug 31 - Beirut
Lebanon 1 (Ataya 67)
Jordan 1 (Faisal 89)
HT: 0-0
Sent off: Merei (Jordan) 90

Aug 31 - Managua
Nicaragua 0
St Kitts & Nevis 0
Ref: Davila (Nic)
Nicaragua: Lorente - Quijano, Casco, Copete, Veliz (Paz 78), B Garcia (Galeano 46), M Lopez (L Peralta 46), J Coronel, Cuadra (L F Coronel 46), Pinel (N Peralta 71), N Lazo (Reyes 61).
St Kitts & Nevis: Archibald (Jamal Francis 46) - Flemming (Cannonier 74), T Leader, Mitcham (Springer 46), Hendrickson (Samuel 80), Mitchum, Freeman (Liburd 64), Williams, Elliott (Rogers 67), Bertie (Tahir Hanley 46), Blanchette.

Aug 31 - Oslo
Norway 0
Belarus 1 (Krivets 56)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,180. **Ref:** Kristoffersen (Den)
Norway: Nyland - Svensson, Hovland, Strandberg, Aleesami (Skjelvik 88), Veton Berisha (Samuelsen 62), Eikrem (Linnes 68), Selnaes (Tettey 46), Johansen, Berget (Diomande 62), King (Sorloth 46).
Belarus: Gorbunov - Shitov, Martynovich (Filipenko 46; Politevich 74), Sivakov, Polyakov, Kalachev (Rios 46), Maevski, Kislyak (Dragun 87), Volodko (Krivets 46), Gordeichuk, Signevich (Kornilenko 70).

Aug 31 - Dublin
Republic of Ireland 4 (Brady 8, Keane 30, Walters 34, 63)
Oman 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 27,000. **Ref:** Masias (Cyp)
Republic of Ireland: Westwood (Randolph 46) - Christie, Wilson, Clark, Brady (Ward 46), Quinn (O'Dowda 65), Whelan (Hendrick 46), Arter, Long (McClean 46), Keane (Hoolahan 57), Walters.

Aug 31 - Antalya
Turkey 0
Russia 0
Att: 31,000. **Ref:** Skomina (Sln)
Turkey: Volkan Babacan - Sener, Ismail (Kaldirim 46), Serdar (Ahmet Calik 67), Tosun (Enes 61), Calhanoglu (Malli 61), Mehmet Topal, Ozan, Volkan Sen (Ayhan 46), Mor (Okay 85), Caglar.
Russia: Akinfeev - Novoseltsev, V Berezutsky, Kudryashov (Neustadter 67), Miranchuk (Erokhin 55), Zhirkov, Shatov, Tarasov (Gazinsky 61), Samedov, Ozdoyev (Zobnin 79), Smolov (Kanunnikov 79).

Thursday, September 1

Sep1 - Riffa
Bahrain 3 (Al Rumaihi pen 11, Abdu 50, Abdul-Latif pen 89)
Singapore 1 (Safuwan 37)
HT: 1-1

Sep1 - Brussels
Belgium 0
Spain 2 (Silva 34, pen 62)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 38,000. **Ref:** Bastien (Fra)
Belgium: Courtois - Meunier, Alderweireld, Vertonghen, J Lukaku, Nainggolan (Dembele 46), Witsel, De Bruyne (Defour 87), Carrasco (Mirallas 77), E Hazard, Origi (R Lukaku 67).
Spain: De Gea - Carvajal (Sergi Roberto 85), Pique (Bartra 59), Sergio Ramos, Jordi Alba (Azpilicueta 59), Busquets, Koke, Thiago, Vitolo (Saul 75), Silva (Lucas Vazquez 75), Morata (Diego Costa 27).

Sep1 - Eindhoven
Holland 1 (Wijnaldum 14)
Greece 2 (Mitroglou 29, Gianniotas 74)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Kalkavan (Tur)
Holland: Zoet - Veltman, Willems (Dost 80), Bruma, Blind, Strootman (Hendrix 65), Wijnaldum (Klaassen 72), Sneijder (Propper 65), Berghuis, Janssen, Promes (Narsingh 72).
Greece: Karnezis (Kapino 46) - Torosidis (Stafylidis 46), Tzavellas, Manolas (K Papadopoulos 46), Papastathopoulos, Holebas (Bakasetas 46), Maniatis, Mantalos (Karelis 83), Samaris, Fortounis (Gianniotas 56), Mitroglou.

Sep1 - Hong Kong
Hong Kong 4 (Mckee 11, Itaparica 31, Sandro pen 42, Lo Kwan Yee 86)
Cambodia 2 (Polroth 20, Vathanaka 61)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 3,465

Sep1 - Bari
Italy 1 (Pelle 21)
France 3 (Martial 17, Giroud 28, Kurzawa 81)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 39,000. **Ref:** Kuipers (Hol)
Italy: Buffon (Donnarumma 46) - Barzagli (Rugani 46), Astori, Chiellini, Candreva, Parolo, De Rossi (Montolivo 46), Bonaventura (Verratti 66), De Sciglio (Florenzi 58), Pelle, Eder (Belotti 74).
France: Mandanda - Sidibe, Varane, Koscielny (Umtiti 83), Kurzawa (Digne 90), Pogba, Kante, Matuidi (Sissoko 63), Griezmann (Dembele 63), Giroud (Gignac 46), Martial (Payet 46).

Sep1 - Male
Maldives 5 (A Abdulla 53, 60, 81, H Mohamed 78, Easa 90+1)
Bangladesh 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 9,000

Sep1 - Porto
Portugal 5 (Nani 27, 55, Joao Cancelo 73, Bernardo Silva 76, Pepe 78)
Gibraltar 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 22,238. **Ref:** Papir (Isr)
Portugal: Eduardo - Joao Cancelo, Pepe, Bruno Alves, Raphael Guerreiro (Eliseu 63), Joao Mario (Andre Gomes 63), William Carvalho (Adrien Silva 46), Joao Moutinho (Rafa Silva 62), Nani, Eder (Andre Silva 46), Quaresma (Bernardo Silva 46).
Gibraltar: J Perez (Robba 46) - Garcia, Mascarenhas-Olivero, Wiseman, R Chipolina, R Casciaro (Yome 61), J Chipolina (Guiling 75), Bardon (Hernandez 25), Walker (Barnett 87), Payas (Bosio 61), K Casciaro.

Friday, September 2

Sep 2 - Riga
Latvia 3 (D Ikaunieks 3, Zjuzins 47, 51)
Luxembourg 1 (Da Mota 46)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,632. **Ref:** Davey (NI)
Latvia: Vanins - Gabovs, Tarasovs (Jagodinskis 68), Gorkss, Maksimenko, D Ikaunieks (J Ikaunieks 54), Zjuzins (O Laizans 75), Lazdins, A Visnakovs (Karasausks 67), Rudnevs (Vorobjovs 84), Sabala (Torress 55).
Luxembourg: Joubert - Jans, Malget, C Martins (Janisch 72), Carlson (Laterza 72), Philipps (Bohnert 55), Mutsch (Veiga 84), Gerson, V Thill (S Thill 85), Da Mota, Turpel (Deville 60).

Sep 2 - Khartoum
Sudan 1 (Hamid 26)
Gabon 2 (Aubameyang 30, Ecuele Manga 41)
HT: 1-2. **Ref:** El Ahrach (Mor)

Saturday, September 3

Sep 3 - Mumbai
India 4 (Das 18, Chhetri 26, Lalpekhlua 34, J Singh 58)
Puerto Rico 1 (Manolo Sanchez pen 8)
HT: 3-1. **Ref:** Kumar (Ind)
India: Singh Sandhu - Kotal (G Singh 88), Mondal, Jhingan, Das, J Singh (S Singh 83), Jairu (Borges 46), Halder (Narzary 46), Lyngdoh, Lalpekhlua (Passi 67), Chhetri (Lalhlimpuia 77).
Puerto Rico: Santana (Echevarria 46) - Conde (Ferrer 78), J Velez (J Morales 83), D'Andrea, E Velez, Martinez, Cabrero, Manolo Sanchez, A Rivera (Lalondriz 53), Coca, M Ramos.

Sunday, September 4

Sep 4 - Manama
Bahrain 0
Jordan 0

Monday, September 5

Sep 5 - Beirut
Lebanon 2 (Saad 59, Maatouk pen 90+3)
Afghanistan 0
HT: 0-0
Sent off: Intezar (Afghanistan) 67

Tuesday, September 6

Sep 6 - Limbe
Cameroon 2 (Abang 65, Salli 90+3)
Gabon 1 (Kanga 75)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Nkounkou (Con)

Sep 6 - Surakarta
Indonesia 3 (Boaz 7, 20, Irfan 11)
Malaysia 0
HT: 3-0

Sep 6 - Bishkek
Kyrgyzstan 1 (Lux 60)
Philippines 2 (Ingreso 44, Bahadoran 53)
HT: 0-1

Sep 6 - Hebron
Palestine 1 (Salom pen 48)
Tajikistan 1 (Umarbaev 39)
HT: 0-1

Sep 6 - Moscow
Russia 1 (Smolov 20)
Ghana 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,400. **Ref:** Agaev (Aze)
Russia: Akinfeev - Semyonov, V Berezutsky, Shishkin, Petrov (Kudryashov 79), Zhirkov (Shatov 82), Samedov (Kanunnikov 70), Dzagoev (Miranchuk 58), Gazinsky (Ozdoyev 64), Zobnin, Smolov (Poloz 88).
Ghana: Kwarasey - Afful, Boye, J Mensah, Rahman, Atsu, Acquah (Tetteh 90), Wakaso (Duncan 79), Acheampong (Accam 78), Partey (Agyemang-Badu 63), J Ayew.

Sep 6 - Johannesburg
South Africa 1 (Makola 7)
Egypt 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,000. **Ref:** Omweno (Ken)
South Africa: Khune - Mobara (Mphahlele 61), Daniels, Hlatshwayo, Langerman (Hlanti 82), Jali, Furman, Makola, Masango (Mekoa 77), Dolly (Kekana 67), Gabuza (Vilakazi 61).
Egypt: El Shenawy - Gaber (A Fathy 78), Gabr, Dewidar, Abdel-Shafy, I Salah, El Nenny (Hamed 63), Trezeguet (M Fathy 90+1), El Said (Sobhy 78), M Salah, Koka (Gamal 80).

Club football

ASIA

AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Quarter-finals

1st legs - Aug 23/24; 2nd legs - Sep13/14
Al Ain (UAE) v Lokomotiv Tashkent (Uzb)
0-0, 1-0 (agg 1-0)
El Jaish (Qat) v Al Nasr (UAE)
3-0 (awarded[1]), 1-0 (agg 4-0)
Seoul (SKo) v Shandong Luneng (Chn)
3-1, 1-1 (agg 4-2)
Shanghai SIPG (Chn) v Jeonbuk Motors (SKo)
0-0, 0-5 (agg 0-5)
[1] Al Nasr had won the1st leg 3-0 but fielded an ineligible player; El Jaish were awarded a 3-0 win

AFC CUP

Quarter-finals

1st legs - Sep13/14; 2nd legs - Sep 20/21
Al Ahed (Leb) v Al Muharraq (Bhn)
1-0, 2-0 (agg 3-0)
Al Quwa Al Jawiya (Irq) v Al Jaish (Syr)
1-1, 4-0 (agg 5-1)
Bengaluru (Ind) v Tampines Rovers (Sin)
1-0, 0-0 (agg 1-0)
South China (HK) v Johor Darul Ta'zim (Mly)
1-1, 1-2 (agg 2-3)

CAMBODIA

2016 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boeung Ket (C)	18	15	2	1	56	15	47
Defense Min	18	15	1	2	45	15	46
Nagaworld	18	10	5	3	31	17	35
Svay Rieng	18	10	1	7	48	30	31
PP Crown	18	8	4	6	32	20	28
Cambod Tiger	18	7	4	7	35	35	25
Nat Police	18	4	5	9	20	32	17
Western PP	18	2	5	11	30	60	11
CMAC Utd (R)	18	2	2	14	22	60	8
Asia Euro (R)	18	1	3	14	16	51	6

VIETNAM

2016 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hanoi T&T (C)	26	16	2	8	45	28	50
Hai Phong	26	15	5	6	47	32	50
Da Nang	26	15	4	7	49	33	49
T Quang Ninh	26	13	5	8	39	31	44
Quang Nam	26	11	9	6	44	32	42
Thanh Hoa	26	12	6	8	51	42	42
Sai Gon	26	9	9	8	34	32	36
Sanna K Hoa	26	10	6	10	34	30	36
Song Lam NA	26	9	7	10	34	36	34
Binh Duong	26	9	7	10	39	37	34
Can Tho	26	10	4	12	37	36	34
Hoang Anh GL	26	9	3	14	39	50	30
Long An[1]	26	5	4	17	34	62	19
Dong Thap (R)	26	1	5	20	22	67	8

[1] Stay in top division after winning rel/prom play-off

AFRICA

CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Semi-finals

1st legs - Sep16/17; 2nd legs - Sep 24
Zamalek (Egy) v Wydad Casablanca (Mor)
4-0, 2-5 (agg 6-5)
Zesco United (Zam) v Mamelodi Sundowns (SAf)
2-1, 0-2 (agg 2-3)

CONFEDERATION CUP

Semi-finals

1st legs - Sep17/18; 2nd legs - Sep 25
Etoile Sahel (Tun) v TP Mazembe (DRC)
1-1, 0-0 (agg 1-1, TP Mazembe on away goals)
MO Bejaia (Alg) v FUS Rabat (Mor)
0-0, 1-1 (agg 1-1, MO Bejaia on away goals)

CAMEROON

2016 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UMS Loum (C)	34	20	10	4	40	15	70
Coton Sport	34	16	12	6	49	23	60
YOSA	34	16	11	7	31	22	59
Union Douala	34	13	17	4	40	23	56
Unisport	34	13	13	8	33	26	52
Aigle Royal	34	11	16	7	28	25	49
Dragon	34	13	6	15	33	41	45
New Star	34	11	11	12	39	34	44
Eding Sport	34	9	17	8	29	26	44
Les Astres	34	10	14	10	28	36	44
APEJES Acad	34	10	13	11	36	32	43
Racing	34	10	13	11	22	27	43
Bamboutos	34	11	8	15	25	33	41
Lion Blesse	34	11	7	16	29	33	40
Canon[1]	34	10	9	15	35	39	36
Panthere (R)	34	7	14	13	22	29	35
Botafogo (R)	34	8	9	17	25	36	33
Cosmos (R)	34	4	6	24	16	60	18

[1] 3pts deducted

GHANA

2016 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wa All Stars (C)	30	15	6	9	31	22	51
Aduana Stars	30	14	7	9	42	24	49
Hearts of Oak	30	12	12	6	31	26	48
Medeama	30	13	7	10	34	31	46
Asante Ko'ko	30	12	10	8	33	29	46
WAFA	30	11	9	10	31	22	42
Bechem	30	12	6	12	31	34	42
Berekum C	30	12	4	14	26	27	40
Dreams	30	11	7	12	30	34	40
Ebusua Dwarfs	30	11	7	12	31	31	40
Ashanti Gold	30	8	16	6	32	31	40
Inter Allies	30	9	11	10	34	31	38
Liberty Prof's	30	10	8	12	33	30	38
Techiman (R)	30	10	7	13	30	39	37
Hasaacas (R)	30	10	6	14	32	43	36
N Edubiase[1] (R)	30	5	7	18	18	45	19

[1] 3pts deducted for fielding an ineligible player

IVORY COAST

2015-16 – FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tanda (C)	26	14	7	5	29	19	49
Sewe Sport	26	12	9	5	31	22	45
SC Gagnoa	26	11	12	3	25	19	45
Indenie	26	10	12	4	29	17	42
Denguele	26	10	11	5	32	26	41
ASEC	26	8	12	6	21	15	36
Stade Abidjan	26	10	5	11	31	26	35
Africa Sports	26	9	6	11	29	30	33
Moossou	26	7	10	9	25	28	31
AFAD	26	8	6	12	25	29	30
SO Armee	26	7	8	11	23	32	29
JCAT	26	5	12	9	19	28	27
Yopougon (R)	26	5	7	14	15	39	22
Korhogo (R)	26	4	7	15	24	38	19

SOUTH AMERICA

SUDAMERICANA CUP

2nd round

1st legs - Aug 23-25; 2nd legs - Aug 31-Sep15
Banfield (Arg) v San Lorenzo (Arg) 2-0, 1-4 (agg 3-4); Blooming (Bol) v Junior (Col) 0-2, 1-1 (agg 1-3); Bolivar (Bol) v At Nacional (Col) 1-1, 0-1 (agg 1-2); Cerro Porteno (Par) v Real Potosi (Bol) 6-0, 1-0 (agg 7-0); Cuiaba (Bra) v Chapecoense (Bra) 1-0, 1-3 (agg 2-3); Dep La Guaira (Ven) v Emelec (Ecu) 4-2, 0-0 (agg 4-2); Estudiantes (Arg) v Belgrano (Arg) 1-0, 0-2 (agg 1-2); Figueirense (Bra) v Flamengo (Bra) 4-2, 1-3 (agg 5-5, Flamengo on away goals); I Medellin (Col) v Luqueno (Par) 3-0, 0-2 (agg 3-2); Lanus (Arg) v Independiente (Arg) 0-2, 0-1 (agg 0-3); Real Garcilaso (Per) v Palestino (Chl) 2-2, 0-1 (agg 2-3); Santa Cruz (Bra) v Sport Recife (Bra) 0-0, 1-0 (agg 1-0); Sol America (Par) v Huancayo (Per) 1-0, 1-1 (agg 2-1); Vitoria (Bra) v Coritiba (Bra) 2-1, 0-1 (agg 2-2, Coritiba on away goals); Zamora (Ven) v Montevideo Wanderers (Uru) 0-1, 0-1 (agg 0-2)

KEY TO TABLES
(C) = champions (R) = relegated
(Q) = qualified for next stage

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World Soccer's GREAT MATCHES

JUNE 15, 1986, MEXICO: WORLD CUP ROUND OF 16

Belgium 4 USSR 3

Seven-goal thriller sees Soviet hat-trick hero knocked out of the World Cup

Dominant...Patrick Vervoort heads clear

"From the most unexpected source came a classic World Cup tie," began *World Soccer*'s report. "And if Leon's Nou Camp did not have the grandeur of its Spanish counterpart, it lacked nothing in atmosphere."

When Igor Belanov scored the first goal of the game just before the half hour mark, it seemed that the USSR would take firm control. But Belgium coach Guy Thys had been building this team over the years and they were certainly no pushovers, having been Euro finalists in 1980 and World Cup semi-finalists in Spain two years later.

"[Jan] Ceulemans was the outstanding player," claimed the report, describing the midfielder as "Belgium's inspiration and their springboard to a fight-back".

After Enzo Scifo levelled the game "continued to flow from end to end" and it was "a measure of the spirit in which the match was played that [Michel] Renquin's booking in the 64th minute for a foul on [Aleksandr] Zavarov was the only one in a remarkably cleanly fought encounter."

The USSR retook the lead through Belanov, but again Belgium drew level.

With 10 minutes left the woodwork denied Sergei Rodionov and the game went to extra-time.

"Even in extra-time, Ceulemans was magnificent, working hard and creating space for his colleagues," the report continued. And that work rate was rewarded with two Belgian goals in a seven-minute spell either side of half-time in the extra period.

The USSR never gave up, but despite Belanov completing his hat-trick six minutes from the end he still finished on the losing side.

"The only disappointment at the end of a classic," concluded the report, "was the exit of, perhaps, the Soviet Union's finest World Cup team." WS

Power...Jan Ceulemans

Referee: Fredriksson (Swe)

KEY MOMENTS

Opener...Igor Belanov puts the USSR in front

27min USSR's Igor Belanov breaks clear down the middle, ventures to the right, and unleashes a 25-yard shot into the top corner. **0-1**

56min Franky Vercauteren crosses from the left for Enzo Scifo to score at the far post. **1-1**

70 min USSR break quickly on the right and Aleksandr Zavarov's cross sets up Belanov, who slides the ball under Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff. **1-2**

76min Jan Ceulemans turns and shoots past Rinat Dasayev in the Soviet goal following a long ball from Patrick Vervoort. **2-2**

80min USSR's Sergei Rodionov sees his shot hit the angle of post and crossbar.

102min A deep right-wing cross by Vercauteren is met at the far post by Stephane Demol, who heads into the opposite corner. **3-2**

Level...Rinat Dasayev is beaten by a header

109min Leo Clijsters heads the ball on for Nico Claesen, who turns and volleys past Dasayev. **4-2**

111min Belanov is brought down in the penalty area and converts the spot-kick. **4-3**

119min Vadim Yevtushenko's chip is brilliantly turned over the bar by Pfaff.

Hat-trick...Igor Belanov scores with a penalty

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